

35,000 cheques for Hiroshima

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110
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3 convicted in Jarallah case

KUWAIT (R) — Three men, two of them still at large, were convicted by Kuwait's criminal court on Wednesday of trying to murder a leading newspaper editor. The radical Abu Nidal Palestinian group has been publicly linked with the machine-gun attack in April 1985 on Al-Jarallah, editor-in-chief of the newspaper Al-Sayra. The criminal court sentenced Akram Hussein Abdul Qader Ades to life in jail with hard labour and Sameeh Mahjoud Mustafa Sayed Bayere to 10 years with hard labour for trying to kill Mr. Jarallah. Both were tried in their absence. The sole defendant in court, Mustafa Mahjoud Mustafa Sayed Bayere, received 20 years in jail with hard labour. All three were said to be holding Jordanian passports. The attack on Mr. Jarallah came a few weeks before a suicide car-bomb attack on the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, who escaped with scratches. The state security court is due to pass verdicts on Nov. 29 on five Iraqis — four still at large — accused of the assassination attempt, which killed five people including the alleged car-bomber. The criminal court's presiding Judge Abdul Hadi Al Attar said that Bayere's confession and his help in identifying the two men still at large were taken into account in determining his sentence.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية عربية عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية «الراي»

Kohl not to apologise to Gorbachev

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will not apologise to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for remarks in which he appeared to compare him to Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels, a senior aide said Wednesday. Horst Teltschik, Dr. Kohl's foreign policy adviser, said the chancellor had already distanced himself from the remarks, published in the U.S. magazine Newsweek last month, and did not plan any further statement on the matter. "He can't apologise for something he did not do. He did not compare Gorbachev to Goebbels," Teltschik told a meeting of the foreign press association in Bonn. The Soviet Union abruptly cancelled two planned visits by senior Bonn officials after Newsweek quoted Dr. Kohl as saying Mr. Gorbachev and Goebbels were both good at public relations. Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, in the first official comment from Moscow, told a news conference on Monday that the analogy had caused profound indignation. "It is hard to say how this could affect our relations in the future," he added. Dr. Kohl has expressed regret, in a newspaper interview and in parliament, at the way his remarks were interpreted and said it was not his intention to insult Mr. Gorbachev.

Volume 11 Number 3322

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13-14, 1986, RABIA AL AWWAL 12-13, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Crown Prince meets Sudanese delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan met at the Royal Court on Wednesday with a delegation from the Sudanese military academy. The Crown Prince discussed with the delegation Arab and international affairs. Prince Hassan spoke in depth about Jordan's policies towards Arab and Middle East developments and answered questions by delegation members. At the end of the meeting the delegation presented Prince Hassan with a token present.

Rifai congratulates Egyptian premier

AMMAN (J.T.) — The prime minister, Mr. Zaid Rifai, on Wednesday sent a cable to the new prime minister of Egypt, Dr. Atef Sedki, congratulating him on forming his government that succeeded that of Dr. Ali Lutfi. In his cable, Mr. Rifai wished Dr. Sedki success in his mission to serve the Egyptian people. Mr. Rifai expressed confidence that the new Egyptian government would maintain the existing strong relations between Egypt and Jordan in the interest of the peoples of both countries.

Buildings evacuated

AMMAN (J.T.) — Residents of three buildings at Al Manara district in east Amman were evacuated by Civil Defence men after serious cracks were found in the buildings, apparently as a result of the recent wave of heavy rains. The three buildings, located in a low lying area, were abandoned by their occupants as soon as the cracks were detected and the Civil Defence Department was alerted. Civil Defence men inspected the three buildings, situated within a housing estate built by the Urban Development Department in the Nasser district and announced that the building could collapse any minute.

Man kills sister

SALT (J.T.) — A man identified as M.M.A.Z. from Salt shot dead his 28-year-old sister on Wednesday. No details were available about the reasons behind the incident and the security authorities are investigating the case. In Amman a 50-year-old woman named Zakieh Suleiman Ali died in the Na'our area after inhaling chemicals. Ambulances rushed to the scene and transferred the woman to King Hussein Medical Centre where she was pronounced dead on arrival.

Peace group crosses River Jordan today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 215-member group representing all Christian denominations in the United States and Mexico will today cross the Jordan River as part of a demonstration of their desire for world peace. The group, which arrived in Amman on Nov. 10, will visit holy places in the occupied territories and will return here on Nov. 19, ending a "prayer for world peace" conference which is organised by a U.S. based travel agency in cooperation with the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism and the Royal Jordanian Airline.

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Iraqi jets strike deep inside Iran

Tehran says 25 killed, vows retaliation

OIC appeals for end to flow of arms

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi warplanes struck deep into Iran for the second consecutive day on Wednesday and reports in Tehran said up to 25 people were killed in early morning raids.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said Iraqi jets hit an oil refinery and a power station in the central Iranian city of Esfahan and an oilfield. A later war communiqué said dozens of planes attacked military camps near the war fronts.

Iran's national news agency IRNA said Iraqi jets damaged two industrial units in Esfahan, 340 kilometres south of Tehran.

Iranian media reports said up to 25 people were killed and 30 wounded in Wednesday's raids, while Tehran Radio said artillery gunners had started to shell three southern Iraqi areas in retaliation for attacks on Tuesday.

The latest flare-up came as an Islamic peace committee, whose efforts to mediate an end to the war have been unsuccessful, Wednesday called on arms suppliers to halt all shipments of military goods to the two Gulf neighbours.

The call was made at the end of a two-day meeting at the

headquarters here of the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

The committee, formed by an OIC summit conference in 1981, also urged Iran and Iraq not to take any action that would worsen the conflict which broke out in September 1980.

"We appeal to Iran and Iraq to end the war on the basis of justice, Islamic principles, and international law, and we call on both parties not to undertake any act that will lead to escalating the conflict or broadening its scope," said the communiqué issued at the end of the meeting.

"We also call on all countries (in the world) to refrain from taking any action that could lead to the continuation... of the conflict, and especially not to sell or provide arms or military equipment to either of the two parties," it added.

In Cairo, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak appealed to both sides to stop fighting, during an

OIC summit to be held in Kuwait in January.

"This is a call from the heart to the two countries to accept a ceasefire during the Islamic conference to give participants a chance to discuss the problem without the distraction of bloodshed," Mr. Mubarak said in a nationwide address.

The OIC committee says it has drawn up a four-point plan to end the war, including negotiations for a full settlement. Wednesday's raids followed Iraqi strikes on Tuesday on a big petrochemical complex, being built by an Iran-Japan venture, at the Iranian port of Bandar Khomeini in the northern Gulf.

Iran said it shot down an Iraqi MiG-23 jet in the area around the time of the raid, but an Iraqi spokesman said all the planes returned safely to base.

Tehran Radio quoted a spokesman for Iran's war information headquarters as saying Iran would retaliate for Tuesday's raids by shelling "military and industrial centres" in three Iraqi cities for 48 hours. The radio later announced that the shelling had started.

An Iraqi high command communiqué said dozens of jets

(Continued on page 3)

Arms talks adjourned

GENEVA (R) — The United States and the Soviet Union on Wednesday adjourned nuclear and space arms negotiations until next year, after a round of talks marked by a surprise summit and proposals by both camps for deep cuts in atomic arsenals.

U.S. chief negotiator Max Kampelman said: "We now have large areas of agreement. We also have areas of disagreement but I was pleased with this round."

The chief Soviet negotiator, Viktor Karpov, emphasised the outstanding differences, saying: "The main problem is in the area of space weapons."

They spoke in a television interview shortly before the sixth round recessed after an hour-long meeting on medium-range arms, such as Soviet SS-20s and U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Europe.

The negotiations opened in March 1985 and include separate talks on long-range nuclear missiles, medium-range missiles and space arms.

A mid-round summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev failed to strike an arms deal but prompted sweeping new proposals by both sides.

After the Iceland meeting on Oct. 11-12 both sides put formal proposals on the negotiating table in Geneva. These will be studied carefully during the winter break, U.S. and Soviet officials said.

The Americans called for removal of all U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe, elimination of all ballistic missiles capable of reaching the other's territory and a 50 per cent cut in remaining strategic forces, such as nuclear-armed bombers and submarine-launched cruise missiles.

Moscow went even further calling last Friday for a ban on all strategic, or long-range, nuclear forces, including submarines and bombers, by 1996 as well as elimination of the "Euro-missiles."

Mr. Karpov said the new Soviet offer was an all-or-nothing package, which included restrictions on space arms research, such as the American "Star Wars" defence programme.

Mr. Reagan launched the multi-billion-dollar strategic defence initiative (SDI), or "Star Wars," programme in March 1983. It is aimed at developing a space and land-based shield which would shoot down attacking missiles.

Amal and Palestinians agree on new truce

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese militia men and Palestinian fighters agreed on Wednesday to send in Lebanese troops to stop sporadic battles at a beleaguered refugee camp on the southern outskirts of Beirut.

Palestinian and Shi'ite Amal militia sources said the agreement — the latest in a series of accords reached and previously broken in Lebanon's latest "camps war" — was finalised at a meeting between the two sides and attended by Syrian officials.

Police said the situation at the Bourj Al Barajneh camp was relatively calm on Wednesday despite sporadic shooting.

The agreement, involving plans to deploy army troops and Syrian observers at the shanty town on Thursday, followed a Syrian-brokered truce there Tuesday night, the sources said.

An Amal-Palestinian operations room would be set up to observe any violations of the accord.

Deployment of Lebanese soldiers and Syrian observers and the establishment of an operations room were also agreed last June after 200 people were killed in fighting around Beirut camps.

Meanwhile a United Nations agency helping Palestinian

refugees said four of its workers were threatened and abused at gunpoint by militiamen on Wednesday (See page 2).

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called on United Nations forces in South Lebanon on Tuesday to help protect embattled Palestinian refugee camps.

Mr. Arafat accused Syria of arming Amal and a rebel Lebanese army brigade which is taking part in the fighting.

In an 80-minute interview with the private "Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation," he said the U.N. forces could advance several kilometres to protect the people in the camps.

The United Nations has a force of 5,800 men in South Lebanon. Its mission is to supervise Israel's withdrawal and restore the Lebanese government's authority.

Mr. Arafat called on the whole Arab Nation, the non-aligned states and U.N. Security Council members to intervene to end the "camps war," which he described as a plan to drive the Palestinians out of Lebanon.

He thanked Lebanese President Amin Gemayel for renewing the passport of about 70,000 Lebanon-registered Palestinians living abroad, saying: "This was like a salvation for them."

Moscow suggests Pretoria involved in Machel's death

MOSCOW (R) — A senior Soviet civil aviation official indicated on Wednesday Moscow suspected South Africa was involved in the crash of an airliner in which Mozambique President Samora Machel was killed last month.

Deputy Civil Aviation Minister Ivan Vasin told a news conference the plane, a Soviet-built TU-136, had deviated from its course towards mountains in South Africa just before it was due to land at Maputo.

"The only conclusion that one can come to is that a powerful radio station on South African territory working on the Maputo airport frequency drew the plane off course towards the mountains," Mr. Vasin said.

But the deputy minister said final conclusions on the cause of the crash could only be made once a commission of Soviet, South African and Mozambique experts currently in Maputo had studied all the evidence.

Mr. Va said decipherment of the black boxes from the plane

and recording of conversations between the crew and Maputo ground control should make it possible to establish what happened in the Oct. 19 crash.

He accused South Africa of hindering the investigation by declining to hand over the boxes.

The deputy minister said he was unaware of reports from Johannesburg that South African Foreign Minister P.W. Botha had told journalists in a telephone call from Paris that one of the boxes would be handed over to Moscow.

"The last information we have is from a meeting of the experts commission in Maputo on Nov. 10 where the South African representatives said they could give no information on the boxes because their government was holding them," he said.

Mr. Vasin said there were indications from the two surviving members of the five-man crew that there had been an explosion aboard the aircraft before it crashed, "and that it had been attacked."



Nationwide festivities to mark King's birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Friday celebrates the 51st birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein with festivities in different parts of the Kingdom.

An international water skiing

competition is being held at Aqaba on Thursday on the eve of the occasion and the University of Jordan is organising a programme of various cultural and artistic

(Continued on page 3)

Mubarak warns Shamir against settlements

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday denounced Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's drive to build more settlements in the occupied West Bank and said the Israeli move was not acceptable to Egypt.

President Mubarak, in a policy statement to a new session of parliament, referred to Mr. Shamir's statements encouraging Israelis to settle in "all of Israel, including the occupied West Bank and Gaza."

"We were upset to see Yitzhak Shamir starting his term as prime minister with a speech in the Knesset (parliament) speaking about the necessity of carrying on with the policy of building settlements in what he termed the land of Israel," Mr. Mubarak said.

He even spoke of settlement as one of Zionism's supreme values. Reiterating Egypt's rejection of settlements, Mr. Mubarak said: "We hold Israel responsible internationally for violating its commitments and undertakings in this connection." He added that Mr. Shamir's position "raises fears of Israeli expansionism and threat to Arab interests."

On Middle East peace, Mr. Mubarak said that his Sept. 12 agreement with former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres to set up a preparatory committee for an international conference was still the best road to peace.

He urged the United States and Israel to overcome their reservations about convening a conference.

Mr. Mubarak said he would meet His Majesty King Hussein to discuss the international conference and other issues.

Mr. Mubarak urged the Arabs to unify and to help to define the relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians "if a Palestinian entity is established on the West Bank and Gaza."

Mr. Mubarak said the agreement reached between Jordan and the PLO on Feb. 11 last year on a joint approach to peace was an indispensable factor in the peace process.

Peres meets Murphy

In New York, Mr. Peres met on Tuesday with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy to discuss progress in Middle East peace efforts.

Mr. Peres, on a five-day trip to the United States, declined to comment specifically on his discussions with Mr. Murphy, denying that any specific new peace plans were mentioned.

Jordan today celebrates Prophet's birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan along with Arab and Islamic nations today celebrates the Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary and religious ceremonies are to be held in mosques throughout the Kingdom.

The main celebration will be held at the Palace of Culture of Al Hussein Youth City under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein. Several notable Islamic figures, including Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, will deliver speeches at the ceremony which is

being organised by the Ministry of Awqaf.

On the eve of the occasion, the ministry issued a statement outlining the meaning of the occasion and the mission of the Prophet Mohammad. The occasion, the statement said, should serve as an incentive for the Islamic nation to unify its ranks and liberate its usurped lands and holy places from Israeli occupation.

All government departments and public institutions will be closed Thursday to mark the holy occasion.

U.N. body urges probe of Israeli nuclear activities

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A U.N. committee has adopted a resolution requesting the Security Council to investigate Israel's nuclear activities and the collaboration of other states, parties and institutions in the nuclear field.

The draft, sponsored by 20 Arab states, was similar to resolutions adopted in previous years.

It was approved in the General Assembly's main Political Committee by a vote of 92 to two (the United States and Israel),

with 42 abstentions.

The resolution reiterated past condemnations of Israel for its "refusal to renounce any possession of nuclear weapons" and requested the Security Council to ensure that Israel placed all its nuclear facilities under safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

When a separate vote was taken on the paragraph calling for a Security Council investigation, it was approved by 89 to 23 with 19 abstentions.

Israeli soldiers kill Palestinian in Gaza after settler is stabbed

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian man and an Israeli settler was stabbed and wounded by an unknown assailant in two separate incidents in the occupied Gaza Strip on Wednesday, a military spokesman said.

The Palestinian was shot after he allegedly failed to stop his car at a military roadblock.

A spokesman said the troops fired at the car near the village of Beit Lahia, south of Gaza City, and wounded the driver, who died on the way to hospital.

The Israeli, Shabtai Shvili, was stabbed while shopping in Gaza

City and was slightly wounded, said the spokesman.

He was taken to Barzilai hospital in Ashkelon, 25 kilometres north of Gaza.

It was the third stabbing of an Israeli in Gaza City over the past two months. In the other two attacks, the Israeli men, also both from Ashkelon, were knifed to death by assailants, according to the Israeli army.

Witnesses saw scores of Israeli troops closing off the area of the attack in the centre of town to search for the attacker.

A number of Arabs were detained for questioning and shops near the scene of the attack

were closed by Israeli forces, Israeli army radio reported.

The deaths of the previous two victims sparked off anti-Arab demonstrations in the coastal city.

In September former Prime Minister Shimon Peres faced angry demonstrators when he named a public square after the late King Mohammed V of Morocco, one day after the fatal knifing of Chaim Azran. Thousands of Israelis ran through the streets smashing windows.

Many Arabs employed in Ashkelon stayed away from the city during the days following both previous attacks.

Washington 'remains hopeful' for release of American hostages

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Wednesday "we remain hopeful" for the release of the American hostages still held in Lebanon.

But Speakes declined to say on what the hope was based or to speculate on when they might be released. He reiterated that U.S. actions in efforts to free the hostages have been legal and said they have also been "wise and appropriate."

"Any life is of the utmost importance," he said. "At the same time the United States has a policy which we have established and which we are abiding by."

The spokesman said Democratic Senator Robert Byrd, who is in line to be majority leader of the Senate in the 100th Congress, and other congressional leaders "will be briefed at some point when we think it is appropriate."

The New York Times, quoting unidentified sources, reported Wednesday that President Ronald Reagan was told at a high-level meeting Monday that there still is hope that Americans Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland might be freed by the pro-Iranian group that holds them (See page 2).

In Paris, amid euphoria over the release of two French hostages held in Lebanon, commentators are asking what price Prime Minister Jacques Chirac will have to pay to free the six still in captivity.

Camille Soutar, 84, and Marcel Coudari, 54, flew to Paris's Orly airport Tuesday night to an emotional reunion with their families and embraces from Mr. Chirac.

Their release brings to four the number of Frenchmen released by kidnappers since Mr. Chirac took over in March pledging to boost ties with Syria and Iran as a way to free the hostages.

But the influential events newspaper Le Monde said the

kidnappers clearly intended to make Paris pay a high price for each hostage freed.

It said the government, which had previously insisted on the release of all the hostages as the price of "normalising" relations with Iran, was now ready to accept the hostages back in batches.

"What will be the price at which Iran will negotiate the fate of the other detained Frenchmen?" the newspaper asked.

"Without wishing to minimise the results achieved, France seems now more than ever caught in a game where it has only partial control."

Only hours before Tuesday's homecoming, Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond announced that France and Iran would shortly sign an accord calling for France to pay an initial \$330 million to Tehran in part settlement of debt dispute.

Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam said on West German television Tuesday night that France's policies towards the release of two French hostages.

ZDF television contacted Mr. Khaddam shortly after the two released men arrived in Paris, and a day after European Community (EC) nations agreed on limited sanctions on Syria for its alleged complicity in terrorism.

Speaking from Damascus, Mr. Khaddam attributed the sudden release partly to what he indicated were satisfactory French relations with Arab states.

"Without doubts, the French

government contributed to the release with its policies towards the Middle East," Mr. Khaddam said. "These policies helped Syrian efforts (to free the hostages) bear fruit."

Asked whether Syria was also trying to secure the release of Americans abducted in Lebanon, Mr. Khaddam replied: "We have mounted strenuous efforts in the past to get the hostages freed. We'll undertake similar efforts in future."

Mr. Khaddam's comments apparently were aimed at crediting France for what many commentators have said was its reluctance to isolate Syria through the European Community sanctions advocated by Britain.

The (European Community) resolution passed in London yesterday (Monday) only mirrored the failures of British policy once again, namely, the attempt to push other European states into taking (tough) measures against Syria," Mr. Khaddam told ZDF.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi said the EC sanctions against Syria would have no practical effect on Damascus, Tehran Radio reported.

Mr. Mousavi, quoted by the radio, said after a cabinet meeting the sanctions "aimed just to gain a bit of prestige for (British Prime Minister Margaret) Thatcher, and will have no practical effect on Syria."

He said the sanctions were described as "watery" during the cabinet session.

EC aid reaches south Sudan

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Relief supplies provided by the European Community (EC) have arrived by train to southern Bahr Al Ghazal region to aid thousands of Sudanese who face starvation because of the ongoing civil war, daily Sudan Times said Wednesday.

The paper quoted the region's military governor Brig. Albino Akol Akol as saying three trains carrying the supplies recently arrived in Aweil in northern Bahr Al Ghazal but that he was having difficulty moving the food to the capital Wau.

Hindawi visits school where 6 students suffered burns in fire

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi on Wednesday visited a preparatory school for girls in Amman where six girls suffered burns and injuries as a result of a fire which broke out at the school on Tuesday. The minister met with the school's staff and discussed safety measures and other administrative issues. The preparatory school is located at Jabal Nuzha district of Amman.

then transferred to the King Hussein Medical Centre, were reported in a satisfactory condition but were being kept under observation. The six girls, three of whom are being treated at the Farah Centre and the others with lesser injuries at the general hospital, are scheduled to be discharged today.

His Majesty King Hussein visited the six patients at the hospital on Tuesday and enquired after their health.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Driving licences to be issued from RAC

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has made arrangements to open a new branch for issuing driving licences at the Royal Automobile Club (RAC). A PSD spokesman said that the branch, to start operations on Sunday, will exchange foreign driving licences for Jordanian licences and will process applications by people wishing to have licences for the first time. The branch will be open from 7:30 in the morning until 12 noon on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, the spokesman said. He said that opening the new branch is in line with the PSD's programme to expand its services.

Himoud bans mushroom imports

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Himoud on Wednesday issued a communique banning the imports of fresh or frozen mushrooms. The ban was imposed to offer protection to locally produced mushrooms, according to Mr. Abdul Hafiz Al Jadi, director of the Ministry of Agriculture's marketing department.

JPRC sells more kerosene, fuel oil

AMMAN (Petra) — The total amounts of oil products sold by the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) in the first 10 months of this year amounted to 2,314,403 tonnes, against 2,153,346 tonnes for the same period of last year. The seven per cent increase was due to more sales of kerosene (23 per cent of the total amount) and fuel oil (22 per cent of the total).

Campus to host scientific book exhibit

AMMAN (J.T.) — A German scientific book exhibition will open on Nov. 15 at the University of Jordan library. The exhibition, which will be inaugurated by Minister of Higher Education Nasereddin Al Assad, is funded by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is organised by the Frankfurt Book Fair and the Goethe Institute in Amman. The display of scientific books from the Federal Republic of Germany will last until Nov. 26. It will be open to the public daily from 9 in the morning until 5 p.m., except on Thursdays and Fridays.

Nationwide festivities to mark King's birthday

(Continued from page 1)

activities. Municipal authorities have organised street marches and processions in the main streets of cities including Amman. The Armed Forces bands, sports and school children are involved in the processions. Various towns and villages have been bedecked with decorative signs and the King's portraits and Jordanian flags.

Born in Amman in 1935, King Hussein was brought up under the care of the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the King's grandfather and founder of the Kingdom, and his father the late King Talal Ibn Abdullah and Her Majesty Queen Zein, the Queen Mother.

After completing his basic education in Amman, King Hussein continued studies in Alexandria and later in England. He ascended to the throne in 1952 when he was only 17, and assumed his constitutional powers the following year.

Under King Hussein, Jordan has accomplished numerous achievements in the fields of education, agriculture, tourism, industry, communications, health and energy.

Despite his young age when he took over the helm of the Kingdom, the King handled the affairs of the country with clear vision and long-term strategies, and managed to realise a number of ambitious development

projects to bring Jordan to the fore of developing countries. Today Jordan's name has come to be closely linked with that of the King, and the Jordanian people and the world community look up at him with appreciation for his untiring efforts to continue Jordan's development process.

On the Arab level, King Hussein was always a leading figure to speak out on the importance of Arab solidarity and joint Arab action to overcome the challenges facing the Arab Nation. King Hussein believes in the strength of a unified Arab World and has always sought to mobilise all Arab forces towards serving higher Arab interests.

Jordan has always been an advocate of brotherly relations among Arab countries and a clear Arab atmosphere. Jordan was the first Arab country to invoke the joint Arab defence treaty and proclaim support for Iraq in its war with Iran; and the support has been sustained ever since.

In keeping with all Arab aspirations, the King turned down all bids for unilateral and separate peace settlements in the Middle East and always insisted on a comprehensive settlement addressing all aspects of the Palestinian problem.

His Majesty has spared no efforts in helping Jordan carry out development projects aimed at raising the social and cultural standard of the people in his Kingdom.

Iraqis strike deep inside Iran

(Continued from page 1)

hit Iranian Revolutionary Guard camps near the Gulf war front, killing large numbers of people and destroying several ammunition dumps.

It said the camps were near Shah-Abad, Kermanshah (known as Bakhtaran in Iran), Imam-Hassan and Gilan-e Garb. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was quoted on Wednesday as saying that Washington was trying to restrict arms supplies to Iran because of Tehran's refusal to accept mediation in its war with Iraq.

Mr. Murphy told the Saudi Arabian daily Al-Yaum: "The Reagan administration is trying to limit Iran's acquisition of arms because it is the headline factor in the Gulf war and refuses to accept mediation." He added: "We do not sell arms to either side and we support all attempts by the United Nations and the Organisation of Islamic Conference to end this crazy war through negotiations."

In Tunis, the head of the Arab League said that reported American arms sales to Iran contradicted Washington's professed neutrality in the Gulf war.

Chadli Klibi, secretary general of the 21-member Arab League, said in a statement that the United States, as a great power and permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, should be seriously striving to end the Iran-Iraq war.

"The League of Arab States is profoundly preoccupied by reports of American arms sales to Iran, which would clearly be in blatant contradiction with the policy of neutrality which the United States committed itself to follow, and which we have considered as contributing to the many international efforts aimed at ending the Iran-Iraq conflict," he said.

Mr. Klibi said it was even more worrying that Israel was reported to have been involved in arms deliveries to Tehran.



The Lower House of Parliament in session Wednesday to elect assistants to the House Speaker and members of various working committees (Petra photo)

Ministry of Occupied Territories opens new offices in Zarqa

ZARQA (Petra) — The Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs on Wednesday opened the new premises of its offices in Zarqa which will serve the three Palestinian refugee camps at Zarqa, Hittin and Sukhoh.

The ministry's under secretary, Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, addressed a ceremony held on the occasion and in his speech he emphasised the government's keenness on promoting services to the refugees in the camps. The Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs will lay water and sewerage networks

and maintain health and educational services to the refugees in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). Dr. Qatanani said. The ministry, he said, is continuing its contacts with the Arab League, international organisations and foreign countries which normally offer aid to UNRWA and has been requesting donors to extend financial assistance to enable the agency to offer better services to the refugees.

Also addressing the ceremony

was Nouredin Dudin, director of the ministry's office in Zarqa. He said that the new office, which cost JD 15,000, offers services to some 65,000 refugees and displaced people now being housed at the three camps.

Mr. Dudin also outlined the different services offered to the camp residents and said that his office supervises UNRWA's operations and also the vocational training centres in the camps.

Mr. Ali Daghash, a camp notable, made a speech outlining the residents' needs and demands.

Rainfall 50% of annual average in many areas

AMMAN (Petra) — Many regions in Jordan, especially the hilly areas, have received as much as 50 per cent of the total amount of rain water which normally falls throughout the year, according to Dr. Ali Abanda, the director general of the Meteorological Department.

He said that rain which fell in October and the first 12 days of November registered seven times the usual amounts for this period of the year in hilly regions, three times the amounts for the southern parts and in the Jordan Valley nearly five times the average rainfall.

Some hilly regions, such as Ras Munif and Ajloun, received 322 millimetres of water and Irbid 234 millimetres, while the area around the University of Jordan received 247 millimetres of water in this period, Dr. Abanda said.

The total number of rainy days in October and so far in November was 11 and during this time there was a noticeable drop in temperatures in all regions, Dr. Abanda added. He said that such high amounts of rain had not been registered in Jordan since 1938.

He said that rain which fell in October and the first 12 days of November registered seven times the usual amounts for this period of the year in hilly regions, three times the amounts for the southern parts and in the Jordan Valley nearly five times the average rainfall.

Some hilly regions, such as Ras Munif and Ajloun, received 322 millimetres of water and Irbid 234 millimetres, while the area around the University of Jordan received 247 millimetres of water in this period, Dr. Abanda said.

The total number of rainy days in October and so far in November was 11 and during this time there was a noticeable drop in temperatures in all regions, Dr. Abanda added. He said that such high amounts of rain had not been registered in Jordan since 1938.

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Forum holds medical camp in Madaba

MADABA (Petra) — Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the University of Jordan, on Wednesday opened a voluntary medical camp at Al Jeel School in Madaba district. The camp has been organised by the Jordanian chapter of Forum Humanum to mark the birthday of His Majesty King Hussein.

In a speech on the occasion, Dr. Majali paid tribute to Forum Humanum and the services it extends to the Arab community under the guidance of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Dr. Majali said that the University of Jordan will always be ready and willing to support the Forum Humanum's activities and programmes.

Madaba District Governor Abdul Halim Al Awad, who is a member of the Forum Humanum and a speaker for the Bani Hamid tribe, made a speech on the occasion outlining the importance of the medical camp which, he said, will be offering free medical services to the local people and helping to spread health awareness among the public.

During the three-day camp, free medical services will be offered to the people of Bani Hamid district and several lectures will be delivered. Local municipal and village councils, heads of tribes and presidents of charitable societies attended the opening ceremony.

Several government physicians, other doctors and specialists employed by the University of Jordan Hospital will be offering free medical treatment to local residents during the camp.

At the University of Jordan itself, arrangements have been made for celebrating the King's birthday. On the campus there will be a three-day programme of cultural, sports and social activities including a cultural competition and an exhibition of King Hussein's photographs.

Several sports events are also scheduled, including a basketball match between the university team and the Amman schools team and a volleyball match.

Lower House elects 2 assistant speakers, forms eight committees

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputies Ramadan Hijeh and Atti Abu El'izz were elected as first and second assistant speakers of the Lower House of Parliament on Wednesday with a unanimous show of hands.

Mr. Hijeh has served for three consecutive terms as first assistant to the House speaker since parliamentary life was restored in Jordan in 1984 whilst Aqaba deputy Mr. El'izz was elected for the first time to fill the post of second assistant speaker.

At the outset of Wednesday's session, first deputy speaker Ismail Hijazi nominated Mr. Hijeh and Mr. Abu El'izz to the two respective positions of first and second assistants to the House's Speaker Mr. Akef Al Fayez.

Mr. Fayez together with the first and second deputies to the House speaker and the two assistant speakers form the House's permanent council.

During Wednesday's session, which was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Fayez and attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Wahab Al Majali and cabinet members, the House also formed eight committees: the financial, legal, administrative, foreign affairs, agriculture, occupied territories affairs, national guidance, tourism and expatriates' affairs, and education.

The House also elected chairmen and rapporteurs for seven of the committees and decided to postpone the election of the chairman and rapporteur of the education committee until the next session.

Following is a breakdown of each of the eight committee's chairmen, rapporteurs and members:

The foreign affairs committee: Rizk Al Batineh (chairman), Fawzi Shaker Al Touameh, Mohammad Al Thweib, Ribhi Mustafa, Fouad Qaqish, Mifleh El Oudallah, Jalal Qallab, Da'oud Suleiman, Mousa Abu El Ghoush, Yousef Al Athem, Faisal Al Jazi and Atti Abu El'izz.

The legal committee: Salman Al Oudah (chairman), Sheikh Abdul Baqqi Gammo (rapporteur), Farah Abu Jaber, Jamal Obaidat, Fawzi Shaker Al Touameh, Mohammad Al Thweib, Misbah Al Kathimi, Rizk Al Batineh, Khaled Al Fayyad, Nazih Ammarin, Edward Khamis, Maher Ershaid, Nicola Akef and Tahseen Al Faris.

The financial committee: Mousa Abu El Raghd (chairman) Jamal Obaidat (rapporteur), Farah Abu Jaber, Fouad Qaqish, Hifzi Malhees, Khaled Fayyad, Maher Ershaid, Atti Abu El'izz and Wahid Al Ja'abari.

The administrative committee: Zuhair Thouqan Al Hussein (chairman), Nazih Ammarin (rapporteur), Faisal Al Jazi, Jalal Qallab, Atti Abu El'izz, Sa'oud Al Qadi, Fayyad Jarrah, Ziad Younis, Ahmad Al Kofahi, Tahseen Al Faris, Ramadan Hijeh and Hifzi Malhees.

The committee for occupied territories affairs: Da'oud Mohammad Suleiman (chairman), Mohammad Al Thweib (rapporteur), Rizk Al Batineh, Suleiman Qudat, Ribhi Mustafa, Edward Khamis, Fayyad Jarrah, Ziad Younis, Nazih Ammarin, Faisal Al Jazi, Wahid Al Ja'abari, Nicola Akef, Tahseen Al Faris, Ramadan Hijeh and Hifzi Malhees.

The agriculture committee: Mifleh El Oudallah (chairman), Khaled Fayyad (rapporteur), Fawzi Shaker Al Touameh, Mohammad Al Thweib, Ribhi Mustafa, Fouad Qaqish, Mifleh El Oudallah, Jalal Qallab, Amin Majaj, Zuhair Al Hussein, Mifleh El Oudallah, Nazih Ammarin, Atti Abu El'izz, Faisal Al Jazi, Mufsed Mubaslat and Da'oud Da'oud.

Members of the education committee: Abdul Baqqi Gammo, Fawzi Shaker Al Touameh, Latih Shbeilat, Zuhair Al Hussein, Mohammad Abdullah, Yousef Al Athem, Fouad Farraj, Edward Khamis, Nader Abu Sha'er, Musa Abu Ghoshe, Mufsed Mubaslat, Nazih Ammarin, Mohammad Al Thweib, Ismail Hijazi and Farah Abu Jaber.

The 60-member House also referred to the financial committee a draft law on approving a loan agreement between Jordan and the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development to finance the Zarqa River Basin project and a draft law on approving a loan agreement between Jordan and the Saudi Fund for financing the Zarqa-Ghor-Haditha highway.

The House referred to its legal committee the following draft laws: an amendment to the 1986 law on municipalities, the 1986 law on construction and contracting companies, an amendment to the 1986 law on the Aqaba railway corporation.

providing up-to-date equipment. The radiology section at the hospital will also be improved with assistance from the university.

In addition, specialised tests which are still not being offered at the hospital, will soon be provided to the poor and the physically handicapped.

The agreement also points out that the University of Science and Technology will shoulder the expenses of the training equipment — which is to be provided by the university — and to be used by the students. Furthermore, both the university and the Ministry of Health will establish a medical library at the hospital premises. Students will also be able to use the utilities and facilities already available at the hospital.

Under the agreement, hospital staff involved in the training programme and teaching staff will be awarded financial bonuses for their services. The agreement also says that the university will assist in improving the standard of the laboratories in the hospital by

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البريد: ٤٩٠٤
الفاكس: ٩٨١٠٧٩

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة التي تصدر باللغة الإنجليزية من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية. تأسست 1975.

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Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-4; 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the

Jordan Times advertising department.

Unholy alliance

IT appears that the whole gamut of contemporary U.S.-Iranian relations is a series of political mimicry, the latest manifestation of which is the James Bond-like appearance of Mr. Robert McFarlane in Tehran some weeks ago. The former U.S. national security adviser, accompanied by four other Americans had come in with a plane load of military spares apparently seeking Iranian help in getting American hostages released in Lebanon.

That U.S. arms were reaching Iran through third parties was never a doubtful proposition to anybody. The Tehran regime very badly needed arms. Ayatollah Khomeini had vowed not to stop fighting until his dream of overthrowing the Iraqi president materialised even if the war were to continue a thousand years. For this, he had to depend on American weapons. But he could not openly depend on the U.S. because for him the U.S. was the great Satan, although he wouldn't mind getting his instruments of death by whatever means possible, but away from the gaze of the world.

Those who know about the Iranian defence establishment are aware that Khomeini's regime could never have established a defence structure different from that inherited from the ousted shah in 1979. That the Iranian government could have had enough contact men dealing with weapons of its choice is also evident from the fact that on the eve of the Islamic revolution there were over 70,000 U.S. personnel in Iran who were there in "support capacity" tied to the arms sales programme. There were also 40 U.S. companies engaged in military contracts in Iran. Additionally, reports are galore of Iranian underground arms deals with various shadowy groups abroad involving millions of dollars.

Khomeini had often expressed his demands for the repatriation of billions of dollars invested by the late shah in U.S. arms industries to acquire advanced weapon systems. The U.S. has been refusing to give back to Iran such amounts in addition to the immense wealth illegally transferred to the U.S. by the late shah which might have prompted the Islamic revolutionaries to adopt devious means, such as holding U.S. hostages, for bargaining purposes. The hostage-taking syndrome of Iran and its votaries in Lebanon could have been dispelled long ago had it not been for the intransigence of the U.S. in not being prepared to deal with the Khomeini regime in a straight forward manner and settle the account earlier through diplomatic means. But the dirty arms deals under the counter was chosen as a preferred means for the two self-righteous regimes — Iran and U.S. — which hold a high profile as mortal enemies but which, perhaps unwittingly, follow policies in the Middle East to the detriment of Arab interests and security.

Iran's capability to continue the war with Iraq into the seventh year would have been crippled long ago had it not been for the underhand arms deals in which the U.S. has been tenaciously engaged. It brings enormous economic profit for the American arms industries. The U.S. enacted laws in 1979 embargoing arms shipments to Iran but deliberately left loopholes in it for the arms merchants to interpret it as they wished in order to carry on with their arms business with a regime termed terrorist by the U.S. administration.

The U.S. raid on Libya in April this year on its alleged complicity in terrorist acts in West Germany and the propaganda barrage subsequently followed in trying to implicate Syria in a similar case all seem to be a smokescreen to cover up the active secret cooperation between the U.S. and Iran in forging a united front at the expense of Middle East security.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Plan not substitute for liberation

THE Jordanian-sponsored five-year plan for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip which King Hussein talked about in his address to the three-day Jordan Development Conference was expounded in full by Prince Hassan at his press conference which followed the three-day meeting. He said that the plan is not a substitute for the liberation of the occupied lands but rather a means for helping the Arab people of Palestine to resist Israel's measures aimed at uprooting them from their homeland. Prince Hassan made it clear that the plan is not intended for expelling Palestinian public opinion before the liberation of Palestinian land, as some sources have tried to present it. It has to be understood that Jordanian-Palestinian relations have special characteristics, and both the Palestinians and the Jordanians are in the same boat in the face of the common danger. It should be emphasised that Jordan's assistance to the Palestinian people under occupation is not a mere duty, but also a right for the Palestinian people who share with the Jordanians their common destiny. Prince Hassan pointed out that the five-year plan is intended as a tool for achieving a comprehensive development in the occupied territory and would not merely benefit individuals. This is not a new "Marshall plan" for the occupied lands which are an integral part of the Arab homeland, but rather it is a form of help to the Arab inhabitants to maintain their steadfastness and resist Israel's measures and abort its aims in the Arab region.

Al Dustour: Hopes for peace

AFTER a statement issued by the Gulf Cooperation Council summit, which called on Iran and Iraq to stop the Gulf war, we are encouraged to see an Islamic mediation mission preparing to resume its efforts to end the conflict. We are also hopeful that the Sudanese mediation, now underway, will achieve fruitful results, and end the six-year old conflict. It is indeed encouraging to hear the Islamic mission undertaking its task prior to the convening of an Islamic summit early next year in Kuwait, far from the battlegrounds. Sudan's mediation is also helpful because that country maintains good and stable relations with both parties to the Gulf conflict and it is hoped that Sudanese Prime Minister Sadek Al-Mahdi's visit to Tehran will contribute towards a settlement. We regard all these renewed attempts as a ray of hope for ending the war which has sapped the resources of many Arab and Islamic countries. It is hoped that once this war is over Arab and Islamic nations would pool their resources and potentials and unify their ranks in the face of an onslaught by Israel, the United States and Western Europe. We appreciate all efforts for achieving peace in the Gulf and hope that the forthcoming Islamic summit will witness the beginning of negotiations between Baghdad and Tehran for the attainment of a lasting peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Confronting enemies

EVER since the Arab Nation started its journey towards liberation from colonial rule and the process of re-construction and development, its enemies rallied to launch counter measures and embarked on hostile actions designed to keep the Arabs backward and weak. This onslaught has reached a climax with the creation of the Jewish state which continues to launch an aggression after another on this Arab Nation. This Israeli onslaught has been followed by another from the east represented in Iran's continued aggression on Iraq. Both common enemies of the Arabs are determined to keep this nation divided and feeble, unable to rise and achieve any progress and prosperity for its people. But it has to be noted that lack of solidarity among the Arab countries and the absence of any serious efforts to rally Arab ranks in the face of danger are encouraging these enemies to pursue their evil aims. The whole of the Arab entity is now in danger and the Arab peoples interest and even their own existence are in jeopardy. As if this is not enough, the Arab region has of late been exposed to intensive acts of terrorism which are designed to distort the Arab Nation's image before the world. Protecting the Arab Nation from without is as important as protecting it from within and we have to protect our image and personality and reputation as we go along with our just struggle to defend our rights and our land from external enemies.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Educated Americans find the Middle East confusing

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — Bits and pieces of news about the Middle East appeared in the American press as the month of October ended — the dismissal of Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Zeki Yamani, the fighting between Amal and PLO forces at the Rashidiyye camp near Tyre (Sur) in Lebanon, the release of an American hostage in Lebanon, continuing air raids over Iran by Iraqi planes and shelling of Basra by Iranian artillery, and, especially, the strange events surrounding the breaking of diplomatic relations between Syria and Britain.

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For educated American readers, no pattern appeared to emerge from these various events. For most of them, this seemed again to be no more than a sign of the turbulent Middle East where nothing made sense. If there was any concern, it was limited to wondering what effect all this would have on oil prices.

Interestingly there was, for the first time, open talk about the possibility of some kind of rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran. On our public television, the "experts" were brought in to evaluate whether such a rapprochement would actually take place or not.

I have always believed that whenever the United States was making even a slight move in the Middle East to dealing seriously

with the Arab Nation, the Zionist propaganda machine went into action. And so, suddenly, the name of Kurt Waldheim and a re-surfacing of his alleged wartime record re-appeared in the press.

What could be going on? Is anything significant going on, or is it all just clouds of illusion? Well, something has to be going on because nothing is settled, everything is in motion, and all this motion has to lead to something, whatever that "something" may be.

From a Western perspective, there has to be some resolution of the turbulence in world oil prices. World oil prices have to stabilise if the currently sluggish world economy is to experience more rapid growth. And these prices can only stabilise if the Middle East stabilises.

So far the world oil situation remains turbulent. Even though the price of oil has been going up most of this year (from a low of \$10 a barrel earlier to around \$15 now), prices in American gasoline stations are still amazingly low. Has there been pressure on the oil companies by the White House to keep them low until after the Nov. 4 American elections?

What is Britain's role on the oil scene? I had believed that the Thatcher government had, quietly, come around to the OPEC position that prices have to be both raised and stabilised. Now I do not know. The move to break relations with Syria pleased Tel Aviv. But Washington did not follow Britain's lead. And then we quickly read of warm relations between France and Syria, with France even considering providing arms to Syria. Furthermore European nations refused to follow London's lead and "get tough" with Syria. The entire Hindawit trial remains confused as well as Syria's alleged role in the bomb plot. What is Britain's real role in the Middle East? Has it

become Israel's catspaw? Or is something more complicated going on?

And where is that huge offensive the Iranians were threatening to unleash against Iraq? Here too we have a Middle Eastern conflict which has to be resolved. The economic attacks by both Iraq and Iran have reached a dangerous level. It is making it increasingly hazardous for oil shipping in the Arabian Gulf. There were reports in the American press about serious internal fighting among the highest ranks of the Iranian leadership. Is that a sign of sharp disagreement over some new diplomatic policy the Tehran government is following?

Are the Palestinians regaining strength after some terrible months during the summer? Is that the reason why Amal fears they may, once again, seek to re-establish their power and base in southern Lebanon?

And then there is the question of American pressure on the Soviet Union to allow large-scale Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union. That now seems to be an American pre-condition for a significant improvement in U.S. relations with the Soviet Union. And if a flood of Soviet Jews comes to Palestine, will that make any difference in the attitude of the new Shamir government? Ariel Sharon has once again called for the pursuit and outright murder of Palestinian leaders, an item I read in Al Ahran and not in the American press.

I see no answers to these many questions, but I see all kinds of movements going on in the shadows. But will the movements come to some climax or will they just go on and on?

'Giving up Arab occupied territories is in Israel's interest'

By Abba Eban

The following article is reprinted from The New York Times. The writer is a former Israeli foreign minister and is currently chairman of the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee.

THE most acute and urgent problem facing the new government established last month in Israel will be the populations and territories in the West Bank and Gaza. If Israel were able to disengage safely from the task of ruling the 1.3 million Palestinians in these territories, it would not only be making a concession to the Palestinian people, it would also be serving its own values and interests.

We may be approaching a point at which the burden by this rule will weigh more painfully on Israel than on the Palestinians under its rule. Last month, Shimon Peres, who was then prime minister, noted that if there were no peace settlements in the coming decade, a future prime minister "would have to renounce territories in the West Bank and Gaza unilaterally in order to avoid ruling the Arab population."

Diplomacy is not theology. It does not promise salvation. If a change in the existing situation is useful to one side alone, it is not likely that negotiation will succeed. But surely it is now clear that we are no longer in a zero-sum situation in which a gain for one party is inevitably a loss for the other. That is why Shimon Peres's urgent pursuit of a negotiation with the Jordanians and Palestinians is not only a quest for peace, it is meant in earnest.

The idea of annexing the territories virtually disappeared

from official Israeli doctrine in the past two years. The Labour Party unanimously resolved in 1984 and 1986 that permanent Israeli rule over the entire area of the West Bank and Gaza would contradict the Zionist character of the state, undermine its moral and democratic foundations and thwart any hope of peace in the future. In the Knesset elections of June 1984, 1.03 million Israelis voted for explicit anti-annexationist platforms. In September 1984, all previous commitments to ultimate Israeli sovereignty in the West Bank and Gaza were expunged from the coalition agreement. And on March 7, 1986, the Knesset overwhelmingly rejected a motion to apply Israeli law to West Bank and Gaza. Only 8 out of 120 Knesset members supported the annexationist motion.

Although slogans about the indivisibility of biblical Israel still resound in ministerial orations, both major parties are committed to the Camp David agreement. This is the most resolute document ever signed by an Israeli leader with reference to the Land of Israel. It rejects annexation and gives the elected representatives of the Arab inhabitants the decisive voice in determining the permanent status of the West Bank and Gaza. It also requires the withdrawal of the Israeli military and civil administration and insists that any agreement should satisfy the legitimate rights of the Palestine people.

It is beyond the power of the English language to reconcile the Camp David text with the imposition of permanent Israeli rule on the West Bank and Gaza. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's

recent declaration of fidelity to the Camp David accord is juridically more binding than any of his party's slogans about an indivisible Land of Israel. In Israel, as in most countries, rhetoric is one thing and policy is another. Foreign opinion greatly exaggerates the degree of Israeli devotion to the idea of permanent rule of the territories captured in 1967.

Nor are the settlements established in the West Bank and Gaza as complex a problem as the media sometimes suggest. After nearly two decades of absolute Israeli rule, the Office of Statistics reports that there are fewer than 30,000 Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza. The Arab population is 1.3 million. This means that less than 2 per cent of Israeli Jews have settled in the West Bank and Gaza, where they form less than 4 per cent of the total population. Clearly, there is no great magnetism at work on Israeli emotions or the sentiments of diaspora Jewry sufficient to make them change the demographic conditions in the territories.

The idea that Israel's security requires permanent rule over Arab population centres has also taken hard blows in recent months. Security can be insured in a peace settlement with a Jordan-Palestinian state by

demilitarisation of the West Bank, selective boundary changes in important areas and, above all, by deterrent power. It is instructive that when Israeli army commanders and heads of military intelligence enter politics, most of them join parties with anti-annexationist platforms. Generals Yadin, Allon, Dayan, Tsur, Rabin, Bar-Lev, Gur, Herzog, Yariv, Amit, Weizmann and Lahat are cases in point.

Those in Israel and abroad who urge us to be content with the existing situation may not have analysed the consequences of their advice. No other political entity in the world today is as incoherent as the combination of Israeli democracy and the populations it rules in the West Bank and Gaza. All our memories, hopes, dreams, historic visions and allegiances flow in different and contrary directions.

The Palestinians live without a right to vote or be elected, without any control over the government that determines the conditions of their lives, exposed to restraints and punishments that could not be applied against them if they were Jews, permitted to cross into Israel to work, but without permission to sleep overnight. It is a bleak, tense, disgruntled, repressed existence, with spurs of violence always ready to explode. There is no precedent for believing that

this condition can long endure without explosion.

Israel lives in a state of structural incoherence. If we were to hear that The Netherlands was imposing an unwanted jurisdiction on four million Germans, or that America proposed to incorporate 80 million Russians into the United States against their will, we would assume that they had taken leave of their senses. Yet some people still talk of Israel ruling a foreign population that accounts for 33 per cent of its own inhabitants as if it were a serious option.

Such rule would have serious ideological effects. The need to control another nation of unequal rights and status inevitably encourages ideologies of self-assertion and superiority. Such trends, including visions of destroying Muslim holy shrines and invocation of vengeful passages from ancient writing, are already being enacted in real life uncomfortably close to the centre of our political and religious spectrum. And there is no solution within an undivided land. If we give voting rights to the inhabitants of the territories, our parliamentary decisions will be determined by members of a foreign nation and we shall lose the vision of a Jewish state. If we deny them voting rights, we shall lose our place in the democratic

family and find ourselves morally adrift.

The emergence two years ago of a prime minister with a bright vision of regional order should have stirred the other actors in the drama to greater urgency. The aim of Mr. Peres and those of us who sustained his cause was not to settle substantive issues ahead of negotiation but to create the negotiation in the hope that the solution would flow from it. This was not fully achieved because all the other watches were running at a slower rate than that of Mr. Peres. Egypt held off until too late. Jordan advanced toward negotiation only to recoil. The Palestinian leaders refused to qualify for a dialogue. They have never missed a chance of losing an opportunity. And the United States did not offer the persevering and intellectually resourceful conciliation that produced five signed Arab-Israeli agreements between 1974 and 1979. So Mr. Peres's time ran out before the other participants in the peace race had developed their rhythm.

The condition for redeeming the situation lies through diagnosis of the current situation as unacceptable. Then, as agreement or at least a process giving hope of change could still save the day for reason and ultimate peace.



Syria seen as outplaying European Community, U.S.

By John Fullerton
Reuter

BEIRUT — In Arab eyes, Syria has won a notable victory in a face-off with the West amid reports of "secret deals" over foreigners held hostage in Lebanon.

Political analysts and commentators said a Western bid for a united stance against Syria had failed, while Syria's prestige had been boosted despite allegations of involvement in a plot to bomb an Israeli airliner in Britain last April.

"President (Hafez) Al Assad has turned potential disaster into a notable victory over the Americans and the Europeans," said one Arab diplomat in Beirut.

On Monday, the European Community (EC) agreed a largely symbolic package of sanctions against Damascus after Britain alleged Syrian complicity in the airliner plot. The United States is also considering sanctions against Syria.

Damascus has denied the British accusations, saying Britain had been set up by Israeli intelligence at Washington's behest.

And on Tuesday, two Frenchmen held hostage by militants in Lebanon surfaced in the Syrian capital, where they were handed over to French officials before flying home.

"It is up to European public opinion to judge who emerged victorious in a battle led by Britain but not joined by other European states," the Syrian newspaper Al

Baath commented on Wednesday.

France, while agreeing to EC sanctions against Syria, said British evidence implicated "some Syrians," not the Syrian government, and Greece refused to sign the EC statement.

French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac on Tuesday night publicly thanked Syria, as well as Algeria and Saudi Arabia, for their part in the release of the two Frenchmen. The role played by the latter two countries was not immediately clear.

But as the two men were freed, France said it intended to sign an agreement with Iran to end a seven-year financial dispute and make an initial payment of \$330 million to Tehran. Iran demands re-payment of a one-billion-dollar loan made under the late Shah.

The two Frenchmen's release came nine days after American David Jacobson, another hostage in Lebanon, was freed by the Islamic Jihad, prompting reports that the White House had engaged in an arms-for-hostages deal with Tehran.

Seven Americans and seven Frenchmen are among 19 foreigners still missing, believed kidnapped, in Lebanon.

Both Iran and Syria, which backs Tehran in its six-year-old war with Iraq, are reported to wield influence over some of the Muslim factions in Lebanon's civil war.

Beirut's independent An Nahar newspaper called on Wednesday for Arab action to block any European attempt to isolate Syria.

noted France had already

breached the EC ban on

high-level visits to and from Syria.

Chirac's political adviser Francois Bujon de l'Estang had a 45-minute meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Fawzi Al Sharaa Tuesday before talking the two freed hostages home.

Sharaa said later Syria would continue its efforts to secure the release of hostages and extend a friendly hand to countries that do not harbour hostility to Arab causes.

Britain, with two of its nationals missing in Lebanon, and the United States appeared to be excluded.

Arab newspapers have generally backed Syria, expressing outrage over EC sanctions.

Qatar's Gulf Times said

Europe's reaction had shown how

readily it would succumb to Israeli and U.S. blandishments. The United Arab Emirates' semi-official Al Itihad said the United States extended its hatred of Arabs to attempts at imposing an economic and cultural siege on the Arab World.

The EC sanctions are unlikely to have much impact as Syria aims at economic self-sufficiency, relying little on the West, and buys most of its military hardware from the Soviet bloc.

One political source in Beirut said Syria might attract additional Arab support, but added: "A unified Arab stand is far-fetched at the present time."

"The Arab World has never been as disintegrated as it is now, although this is the every point at which we need utmost unity."

LETTERS

It's not so easy

To the Editor:

In his view from Amman entitled "The Arab World in crisis: What is to be done?" (Jordan Times, Nov. 8, 1986), Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber came to the conclusion that planning, in short, was the remedy for all Arab ills.

If his proviso is true, we wish that Dr. Abu Jaber would elaborate on how planning could be achieved without Arab unity, and in the presence of 22 "independent" Arab states with 22 Arab heads of state.

Quite often theories look great, but their implementation may not be so easy.

Farouk Sa'd Abu Jaber
Amman

Governments worldwide grapple with drug danger

Although the United States is the world's biggest narcotics market, it is not alone in perceiving a heightened threat. Governments from the Soviet Union to South East Asia to Western Europe also are worried. The following articles show how five nations are dealing with the drug danger.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government is pouring money and manpower into an escalating battle against drug abuse in the country that is the world's largest narcotics market.

President Ronald Reagan last month signed into law a bill that doubles the federal budget for chasing drug dealers and smugglers and stiffens penalties for traffickers.

The law will automatically suspend half the foreign aid to drug-producing countries unless the president certifies to Congress that the country is cooperating with U.S. anti-drug efforts or that the aid is vital to national interests. On no other issue does the United States have a tougher automatic foreign sanctions law.

The measure also would require the government to deny special trade preferences to countries not cooperating with U.S. anti-drug efforts.

Ann Wroblewski, assistant secretary of state for international narcotics matters, said in an interview published in the New York Times that the law "greatly raises the prominence of narcotics as a foreign policy issue."

First lady Nancy Reagan has taken a personal lead in a "just say no" anti-drug campaign in the United States and as actively recruited the participation of first ladies in other countries in an international anti-drug effort.

Backers say the new \$1.7-billion U.S. drug law marked a significant change in Congress' approach because it authorized nearly \$500 million for anti-drug education and rehabilitation, aimed at reducing demand for drugs.

The bill also:

- Doubles the federal drug interdiction budget to \$634.9 million.
- Expands the power of U.S. drug agents to operate overseas.
- Provides mandatory minimum sentences for major drug traffickers.
- Requires that at least 500 coast guard officers be assigned to U.S. navy drug-interdiction ships in American waters.
- Authorizes \$63 million in foreign aid to help other nations combat the drug trade.

Malaysia

Malaysia has already hanged 41 people for drug trafficking. Eighty-three others wait on death row. And the government is pushing through still more tough anti-drug laws.

Officials estimate the nation of 16 million people has 560,000 heroin and morphine addicts — slightly more than in the United States, a nation 15 times more populous.

The death penalty was first imposed on traffickers in 1975. Two years ago, it was made mandatory upon conviction. Since then:

- Parliament has authorized police to detain suspects without trial for up to two years before a review of the case is required.
- More than 100 people have been picked up so far.
- The deputy home affairs minister said the government was considering mandatory whipping for lesser drug offences.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said the government would soon introduce legislation for seizing and auctioning off all assets of convicted traffickers, so that drug profits would not go to survivors.

Simple possession of a half-ounce of heroin is enough to hang a defendant as a trafficker. Malaysia's death penalty gained worldwide attention last July when two convicted Australians were executed at Kuala Lumpur's Pudu prison.

Although the punishment is widely accepted in Malaysia, the national bar association and some civil rights groups object that judges should be able to impose lesser penalties, depending on the circumstances.

Students at all levels are lectured regularly on the dangers of drugs, and broadcast commercials constantly repeat the message: "It is a mandatory death sentence for drug traffickers."

Mahathir's wife, Siti Hasmah, a physician, attended Naogy Reagan's anti-drug conference of first ladies at the White House last year. Impressed by Mrs. Reagan's "just say no" campaign, she launched a similar drive to Malaysia.



Britain

Margaret Thatcher's government is pursuing a many-sided attack on a worsening drug-abuse problem in Britain.

"We are after you... we shall make life not worth living," the prime minister has warned pushers.

In the 2-year-old offensive, her government has:

- Enacted a drug trafficking offences act that gives British customs power to confiscate all the assets of suspected drug traffickers.
- Allocated the equivalent of \$2.8 million a year on an anti-drugs publicity blitz, featuring television, radio and billboard advertisement hammering home the message, "Heroin screws you up."
- Established a national drugs intelligence unit at Scotland Yard and increased the number of customs drugs inspectors from 121 in 1979 to a projected 297 in April 1987.
- Committed \$15.1 million in overseas aid to drugs-related projects, including one to help wipe out opium poppy production in the Dir district of Pakistan.

The Home Office, responsible for law enforcement, says drug abuse has increased substantially in the past six years.

In 1984, the number of registered addicts in Britain, three-quarters of them heroin users, was 7,410, up 26 per cent from 1983. Authorities believe

1985 figures, when published, will show an additional 25 per cent rise.

The figures reflect only addicts registered for national health service treatment — usually diminishing doses of the heroin substitute methadone. Research indicates the actual number of addicts is five to 10 times higher.

Another indicator of the scale of the problem: In 1985, customs officers seized a record amount of illegal drugs, with a total street value of \$150 million, and smashed 70 drug rings.

After years of denying it had a drug-abuse problem, the Soviet Union in recent months has published candid news reports on addiction and efforts to combat it.

Drug abuse is clearly far less common among the 280 million Soviets than in the United States, although no statistics have been published. The state of recent reports, nonetheless, shows Soviets the problem does exist.

Articles in the state-run news media, apparently the result of Kremlin leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev's campaign for official openness, tell of youths who steal drugs from hospitals and opium seeds from plantations, where poppies are grown for medicinal purposes.

The reports say the most popular drugs are hashish, cocaine and home-made "cocktails" concocted from over-the-counter or hospital drugs. Geographically, drug use is concentrated in the central Asian republics of

Turkmenia and Kazakhstan, where custom condones it, and in the southern Republic of Georgia and cities in European Russia, the articles said.

The Soviet government had no anti-trafficking laws until 1974. Now, large-scale production, possession or purchase of illicit drugs can draw a maximum 15-year sentence. A three-year term is not uncommon for possessing a few ounces of hashish.

More recently, authorities have sought to respond to the problem in several ways:

- Ten drug-abuse clinics are in operation in Moscow.
- Police are trying to improve their investigative work, but they lack sufficient funds, experience and cooperation from parents, teachers and accused addicts, who are reluctant to turn in dealers, the reports said.
- Authorities have stepped up efforts to educate citizens to the dangers of drug abuse.

Several articles suggest Gorbachev's campaign to reduce the Soviet Union's severe alcohol-abuse problem may have caused some to turn to other drugs.

The Netherlands

The Dutch have a dual view of drug abuse: They have toughened enforcement and improved treatment for heroin addiction, but at the same time they openly tolerate marijuana and hashish use.

The number of heroin addicts in Amsterdam has declined to about 7,000 from 8,000 in 1980, says the municipal health service.

"It's a combination of tougher drug enforcement... and our methadone programme," said spokesman Ernst Buning.

He said more than 3,750 addicts are being treated with the heroin substitute methadone, doled out in six centres and in two buses that cruise the city. But, while addiction may have declined, heroin traffic seems to have increased, judging from the tripling in the annual volume of heroin seized over five years — to 777 pounds in 1985. This indicates The Netherlands has become a more important drug-trade hub.

Drug abuse developed in The Netherlands in part because of Dutch tolerance of alternative lifestyles, in part because relaxed border controls and a good air and sea transportation network facilitated the trade.

Authorities focus enforcement on the "hard" rather than "soft" drugs, such as marijuana and hashish, which are readily available to hundreds of Amsterdam's coffee shops. Cocaine is increasingly popular, but officials say it is not yet a major problem.

Although judges have gotten tough on major dealers, imposing prison terms of 10 years or more, politicians are not pushing for harsh penalties.

Suzuki method still turns out new generations of musicians

By Terril Jones
The Associated Press

MATSUMOTO, Japan — Five-year-old Etsuko Nakano sat at a grand piano, her feet so far off the floor they had to be held up by two stools, and poured out Bach's "Gigue in B-flat."

Etsuko, who has studied piano for two years, is no prodigy. He is one of dozens of pre-school pupils of Shinichi Suzuki who play piano sonatas flawlessly before learning to tie their shoes.

Suzuki, now 88, is tirelessly carrying on the famed learning method that bears his name to generations of musicians around the world.

Today 14,000 students study

piano and violin through the Suzuki method in Japan, and some 300,000 overseas.

Aside from a hearing aid, Suzuki shows no signs of slowing down. "People say I'm 88, but I'm really 16," he said during a visit to his talent education institute in Nagano prefecture near Tokyo. "I'm going to retire when I'm 110."

Suzuki's movement began with a startling find. "I discovered 56 years ago that people don't have innate abilities," he said. "In the human mind there is no innate ability for music, or for literature."

But he says the mind has the capability to learn anything at a tender age, what Suzuki calls the

"living soul ability."

"Children all over world learn to speak their own language very early," he said. "It's like bringing up a child among wolves — he won't speak, but will howl like a wolf. The same is true with music."

The Suzuki method is based on listening to music over and over, then repeating passages on an instrument. The younger someone starts, the earlier the mind is conditioned to learn quickly.

Once children master a certain passage, they progress to the next step where the listen-play process is repeated, until an entire piece is mastered.

"Language and music education should parallel each

other," said Suzuki, the son of a violin maker. "Start from age zero. Let them listen to tapes before they are even born."

Violinist Mizue Hirabayashi, 14, spent her first month of violin study watching older students playing.

"We had to go around and greet them, bow to them," recalled Mizue. "Then we practiced with 'box violins' made with rulers and chopsticks."

After a month pupils begin to play. Not scales, but melodies, says Mizue's teacher Yuko Mori. "They learn with their ears, no sheet music. Like a mother tongue, they repeat, repeat many times, like a recording. They learn 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' or

Song of the Wind' Melodies children like."

Four-year-old Etsuko is far beyond that she counts Haydn, Beethoven and Mozart sonatas in her repertoire.

"The parents' role is vital. Mothers create a musical atmosphere by letting their children constantly hear music," Ms. Mori says. "It's essential to do this at home. That's where they grow the most."

Suzuki claims such closely supervised study still allows pupils to do their schoolwork. "It doesn't interfere. The children aren't given homework, and there are no tests," he said. "They enjoy what they're doing."

Not all musicians share this

enthusiasm.

"Music is extremely individual, so learning simply hearing and imitating means it's not that person's own music," says Kuniko Matsuyama, a 25-year-old piano teacher and composer who began studying when she was four. "It's purely copying... you see young kids playing in massive groups, like robots."

But Ms. Mori disagrees. "They (students) use their minds, it's not just imitation. It develops the ability to analyse, it creates thinking people."

Mizue's mother Yoshiko says the method "breeds a discipline — she does things on her own. I think that definitely comes from her Suzuki training."

Laotian royal city's hidden treasures could open to outside

By Tom Heneghan
Reuters

LUANG PRABANG, Laos — Hidden among the misty mountains of the north-central highlands, Laos' "Golden City" of Luang Prabang is a jewel of Buddhist culture, foreign believers and tourists almost never get to see.

The twisting road up from Vientiane is only partly paved, making the 240 km route a journey of one day in the dry season and at least two when the monsoons turn the tracks into thick mud.

In the mountain-ringed town, the former royal and religious capital of Laos' "kingdom of a million elephants," there is only one modern hotel to house visiting international aid workers and occasional official guests.

Even if the weather is fine and the Phou Vao Hotel is empty, outsiders still have almost no chance of getting here.

Laos' Communist leaders,

ascetic revolutionaries who lived in limestone caves in the isolated north-east during their 20-year armed struggle for power, shut Vientiane's bars and massage parlours when they took over in 1975.

Apart from selected groups from the Communist world, they slammed the door on tourists and sent thousands of Laotians for "re-education" to banish the decadent ways they learned during the decades Laos was a French colony and U.S. ally.

"Reeducation"

As the symbol of the old order, Luang Prabang slowly slipped into the same semi-oblivion the country faced after its Vietnam war-era strategic importance faded.

"There were many negative influences, like the massage parlours like in Bangkok," said one foreign ministry official to explain why tourism was halted.

"We had so little food we would

have spent all our earnings to import food from Thailand," he added.

But the first signs of a change are appearing, according to Western diplomats in Vientiane.

Three chic new privately-run restaurants are now operating in the capital, bringing some of Indochina's best French cuisine back to Vientiane.

"Reviving tourism"

The government has begun discreetly asking for foreign help to revive its tourist industry in the five-year plan due to be approved at the party's national congress next month, they say.

The main attraction should be Luang Prabang, a quiet town with dreamy mountains like those across the southern Chinese border 145 km away.

Weather permitting, Lao Aviation flies here three times a week in Soviet-built Antonov-24 propeller planes that fill with vapour clouds when the

airconditioning is on.

The airport runway is short, dotted with buffalo dung, and only a small cabin protects passengers from the rain.

At the centre of Luang Prabang, on a triangle of land where the muddy Mekong and Nam Khan rivers meet, rises the sacred peak of Phousi believed to protect the town from misfortune.

Halfway up the steep path to the top, a large Buddha statue sits beneath rock ledges studded with prehistoric seashells. Four casings from secret U.S. bombings in Laos in the 1960s are used as flower vases in front of his altar.

Just below a golden pyramid topping the peak is a disused Soviet-made ZU-23-2 23mm anti-aircraft cannon poised to protect the town's airfield during Laos' long civil war.

From the peak, the 56 temples of Luang Prabang — some restored and some rotting — stand out from the lush green landscape spread below.

The town emerged in history in

"Ancient history"

1553 when Prince Fa Ngoun made it the capital of his Lane Xang (million elephants) kingdom. Although sacked and exchanged several times through the late 1800s, the town has temples dating back to 1503.

Among the most impressive is the Wat (temple) of Xieng Thong ("golden city"), the former royal coronation hall whose high peaked roof sweeps down low to protect paintings on the outside walls from monsoon rains.

Each temple has its own special features, like paintings from around the Buddhist world in the 17th Wat Sen or Wat Pa Ke's gilded fresco doors recounting the visit of Dutch travellers here in the 17th and 18th centuries.

About 200 bonzes (senior monks) and over 1,000 novices live in Luang Prabang's monasteries and maintain the temples with donations and government aid.

At the foot of Phousi hill stands the former royal palace, a low white residence built around a throne room with mosaics of gold leaf and coloured mirrors covering its rich red walls.

The palace, which was turned into a museum after former King Savang Vatthana was arrested in 1977 for allegedly fomenting guerrilla unrest in the nearby hills, is now only open for official visitors.

It opened last week for European Community Commissioner Claude Cheysson, here on his first trip back since coming in 1954 as a French government official to discuss the Geneva agreement with Savang Vatthana's father, King Sisavong Vong.

The guest book contained a tribute from another recent visitor, Yevgeny Yevushenko, who identified himself simply as "Russian poet" and impishly drew a Communist hammer-and-sickle with the biological symbols for man and woman.

Panda Habib's Taking risks

A very interesting feature of the 5-year development plan is its emphasis on the role of the private sector. In fact, the plan envisages the private sector share in implementing the plan to be in excess of 48 per cent. This, of course, requires the employment of huge capital funds.

Banks are expected to extend funds towards that end. Critics say that banks should circulate their money and that they should not only limit their facilities to the "rich" but should "risk" their capital in ideas that are viable but require funding.

None of us is naive to the extent of thinking that banks will start preferring creativity and initiative to mortgages and that they will start giving "bottomry loans."

Banks, as they are established in the world and in Jordan, never take risks. In fact they just give cash to owners of real estate. For a loan of say one hundred thousand dinars, you need to mortgage properties or give guarantees for two hundred or even three hundred thousand.

The solution in Jordan would be to establish banks of venture capitals, ready to listen to new ideas, and to risk capital.

These banks would be established with the cash flow of say insurance companies and autonomous funds, who have enough capital to place at risk.

Ideally, the banks of venture capital could be created in Jordan, with Jordanian money. But one can also attract the interest of the Japanese or the Germans, champions in this field, who might be interested in investing in ventures in Jordan. And, then, maybe, so many interesting projects will be realised starting a new era of small and medium size industries in Jordan.

U.N. department cuts staff, improves productivity

By Terry Leonard
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — One U.N. department, forced to cut its staff by almost a third, has accomplished more with less. It has also set an example for the United Nations, which is faced with financial crisis and demands for reform.

During the past three years, the Department for Technical Cooperation for Development (DTCO) has reduced its staff at U.N. headquarters from 573 to 392, cut its costs by 13.5 per cent and raised its productivity per worker by 35 per cent, according to department figures.

"At a time when the United Nations system was under constant attack for profligacy and inefficiency, it was a source of pride that DTCO's productivity had increased from \$220,000 per head to \$300,000," U.N. Assistant Secretary-General Margaret Anstee, who directed the department's reorganisation, told the United Nations Development Programme governing council.

Henry Becard Glazer, a U.S. official on the governing council, said the DTCO had achieved greater efficiency, and in that way had set an example for the entire U.N. system.

The department, the second largest in the U.N. system that operates programmes in the field, conducts such projects as digging water wells in drought areas of Africa. In Mali, it has dug more than 3,000.

About 45 per cent of its expenditures are spent to help developing countries search for

minerals and energy resources.

In Mali, for instance, where per capita income is \$140 a year, the department in 1982 helped locate deposits of gold, molybdenum, chromium and lithium. An agency-operated offshore drilling project recently found a major tin deposit off Thailand, but a collapse of tin prices has kept the government from exploiting the find.

A General Assembly committee is currently studying proposed efficiency measures, including staff cuts.

Miss Anstee has been chosen to implement the U.N.-wide efficiency measures when they are decided on.

Bhouraskar himself is reluctant to point to the department's recovery as an example for other U.N. departments with different problems. But he admits he is proud of the staff and its accomplishments.

"We did react in a flexible manner to the changing circumstances. It was a financial crisis and we reacted to it, showed the necessary responsibility and cooperated," he said.

"During this period we also did something which should be of long-term benefit...having made the improvements, future staff needs will be somewhat less than they would have been without the improvements," said Bhouraskar.

The department's projects are financed primarily with money major industrialised nations donate to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The money is then allocated to the developing countries and the governments, with UNDP approval, decide what projects to fund.

FARMING ON THE INCREASE

STATISTICS that tell a story

A growing number of developing countries are boosting their efforts towards food self-sufficiency by giving greater encouragement to agriculture. While growth rates for the industry in many traditionally-agrarian countries have been levelling off during the past 20 years - and in some cases declining - spectacular advances have been made elsewhere, notably in the Middle East.

Country	Percentage growth rates 1965-75	1975-84
Lower income countries		
Bangladesh	0.4	3.1
Burma	2.9	6.0
China	2.8	4.9
Ethiopia	0.0	5.0
India	-0.9	1.8
Niger	2.7	4.1
Sri Lanka	0.3	2.7
Sudan		
Upper middle income countries		
Algeria	2.4	4.2
Argentina	-0.1	3.4
Chile	-1.1	2.4
Hong Kong	-0.6	0.8
High income oil exporters		
Kuwait	NA	10.2
Saudi Arabia	2.8	6.3

* Figures relate to the gross measurable output/value of the respective countries' agricultural sector, including farming, fisheries and forestry.

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Greece beats Hungary 2-1

Scoreless draws occur in 2 other Euro matches

ATHENS (Agencies) — Hungary's soccer nightmare continued Wednesday as Greece won a European Championship qualifier 2-1 to leave the East European side bottom of Group Five and on the threshold of demolition.

Goals from Greece's Tasos Mitropoulos and Nicos Anastopoulos put Hungary well down the road to its second successive qualifying defeat before substitute Imre Boda pulled on back for the visitor 17 minutes from the end.

The defeat could spell the end of the international careers of many of the Hungarian players as manager Imre Konora, brought in after the disastrous World Cup campaign, has said he would break up the team if it suffered another setback in Athens.

One player who will be exempted from any blame is goalkeeper Jozsef Szendrei. He kept the Hungarians in the game with a string of fine saves, starting in the fourth minute when he pushed away a header from Mitropoulos.

Two minutes later Szendrei flew across his goal to save a free kick from forward Dimitris Saravakos. However, the goalkeeper was powerless to stop Mitropoulos in

the 38th minute when he made the most of poor defensive work by the Hungarians to slip through and score from 10 metres.

The Hungarians were again guilty of slack defence in the 66th minute as Anastopoulos broke past three Hungarian defenders to score.

Boda, who replaced Ferenc Meszaros in the second half, reduced the arrears in the 73rd minute after a mistake by Nicos Vamvakoulas.

But the more organised Greek side hung on to take its place at the top of the group alongside Poland and the Netherlands.

For Hungary the future looks as bleak as the immediate past. The team returned from Mexico in disgrace after two heavy defeats in the first round of the World Cup finals.

Turkish, Irish draw

In Izmir, Turkey and Northern

Ireland played to a goalless draw in their Group Four qualifying match for the 1988 European soccer championship here Wednesday.

The match referred to by Stefan Petrescu of Romania was played at the Ataturk Stadium, with about 30,000 people watching.

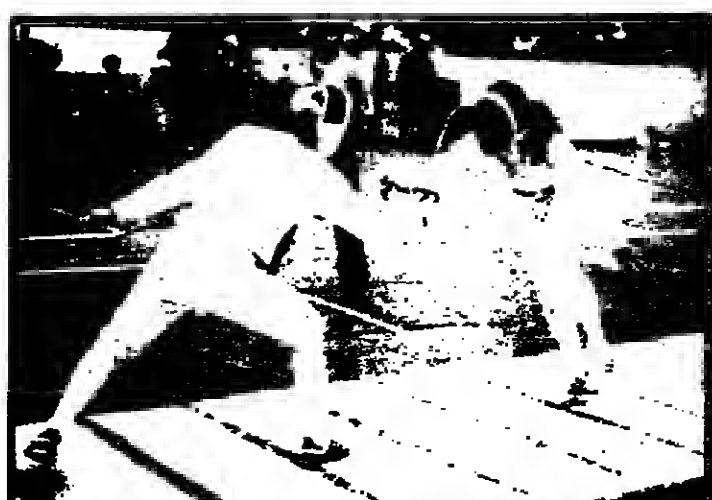
In the opening matches Turkey and N. Ireland lost 4-0 and 3-0 to Yugoslavia and England respectively.

The Turks started with several swift attacks in the opening minutes but Turkish strikers missed two close chances. While a fierce shot by Ugur from around 20 metres hit the bar, Metin shot wide a cross by Senol a minute later.

After withstanding the Turkish attacks in the first 15 minutes the Irish side started coming forward and putting more pressure until the end of the first half.

Turkey dominated most of the second half but its strikers squandered several other good chances.

Turkey's coach Coskun Ozari resigned after the game as a result of the team's poor showing against Yugoslavia in the first game two weeks ago.



FENCING CHAMPIONSHIP — Minister of Youth Eld Dahiyat Wednesday opened at Al Hussein Sports City the Arab Fencing Championship, organised by the Jordanian Fencing Federation in celebration of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday. Two teams from Iraq and one team from Kuwait are taking part in this championship which ends on Friday. The Iraqi women's team defeated the Jordanian women's team 7-2 in the opening match. The competition for the men's championship starts Thursday (Photo by Yusef Al-Arian)

Jahangir defeated for first time in 5 years

TOULOUSE, France (R) — Jahangir, Khan, invincible for half a decade, proved humanly fallible after all when Ross Norman toppled him in the World Open Squash Championship final. The brilliant Pakistani, last defeated when just 17 years old in April, 1981, rejoined the ranks of mortals when the fair-haired New Zealander beat him 9-5, 9-7, 7-9, 9-1 at the Toulouse Palais Des Sports Tuesday night.

But there was consolation in defeat for Jahangir, relieved of the burden of continually having to defend his place as one of the most durable champions in sports history. "For him there was nothing to lose. I've done five years and the pressure was on me all the time. I've just got rid of it now. If they were ranked number 100 or even number two it was the same," he said.

English soccer head expects lifting of ban

LONDON (AP) — The head of English soccer says he expects the nation's clubs soon to be allowed back into European tournaments, from which they have been banned because of fan violence.

Bert Millichip, chairman of the Football Association, said the return should come within 12 months — if the FA and the ruling body of European soccer, UEFA, give the go-ahead.

"We shall be back in Europe next year. UEFA want us back and are only waiting for me to tell them we are ready," Millichip told a dinner celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of Shrewsbury town's soccer club.

Only UEFA's executive board has the power to readmit English clubs and Millichip gave no reason for his optimism.

A spokesman at UEFA's headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland, said there was "nothing new" to report on the status of the English ban. "The executive board meets in March," said the spokesman, who

asked not to be further identified. "Only they can decide."

Millichip warned that any recurrence of violence by fans if the ban was lifted would lead to England's clubs being barred again.

"If we do go back and we get the slightest bit of trouble, we shall be out of European and world football for the foreseeable future," he said.

UEFA banned English clubs from the three main European tournaments — the Champions Cup, the Cupwinners Cup and the UEFA Cup — following the riots at Heysel Stadium in Brussels in May 1985, which left 39 fans dead. Most of the victims were supporters of Juventus of Turin. Italy, which was playing Liverpool, England, in the Champions Cup final.

A team of UEFA observers is monitoring fan behaviour this season at English League matches, where violence in the stands is down dramatically from past years.

Two early season cases of English squads travelling to Europe for national team or exhibition matches, however, were accompanied by fan disorder.

King attends taekwondo graduation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday attended a graduation ceremony of a taekwondo course by cadets of the Royal Escort Special Regiment.

At the outset of the ceremony, the King watched a show of taekwondo skills performed by the graduates who showed a great deal of dexterity, efficiency, and physical fitness.

Following the performance, King Hussein distributed certificates to the graduates and prizes for those who excelled in the course.

The graduation ceremony was attended by Her Majesty Queen Noor and members of the Royal Family, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General



King presents certificates to graduates of a special taekwondo class for Royal Escort Special Regiment cadets on Wednesday

Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Abu Taleb, and a number of high Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi ranking officers.

Egyptian soccer players killed

CAIRO (R) — Two Egyptian soccer players, including international striker Mohammed Hazem, have been killed in a car crash, police and hospital sources said Wednesday.

They said Hazem was killed instantly Tuesday night, while his First Division Ismaili club colleague, Ali Agha, died Wednesday.

Another Ismaili player, Mahmoud Gaber, and club official Farouq Mustapha, who were in the same car travelling to Cairo from Ismailia, were slightly injured, the sources said.

Hazem, a prolific scorer, won 15 Egyptian caps. Tuesday night's accident occurred after the three Ismaili players had played in a scoreless league match against the Mehalla club.

WACA to pay rebel cricketer

PERTH, Australia (R) — The West Australian Cricket Association (WACA) was ordered to pay 75 per cent of Kim Hughes' costs incurred during his successful 22-day challenge to bans preventing him playing club cricket.

The decision, handed down in the federal court on Tuesday, means the WACA will also have to foot the bill for its own legal costs.

Hughes' legal fees have been estimated at 275,000 Australian dollars (\$178,000) and the WACA's at 200,000 Australian dollars (\$130,000).

This means the WACA could have a legal bill of around 400,000 Australian dollars (\$260,000) — to be shared among member clubs.

Turkish national manager resigns

IZMIR, Turkey (R) — Turkish national soccer manager Coskun Ozari resigned Wednesday, hours before a European Championship game against Northern Ireland.

Ozari told Reuters at the team's hotel: "The conditions made it necessary. I could not agree with the head of the soccer federation."

He did not elaborate but federation chief Erdenay Oflaz has been known to want to bring in a foreigner, possibly an Englishman, to revive the side's flagging image.

Turkey's 4-0 defeat by Yugoslavia in Split in the European Championship last month appeared to be the immediate reason for Ozari's resignation.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Skiing festival for King's birthday

AQABA (Petra) — An international water skiing festival opened Wednesday at the Gulf of Aqaba. The event has been organised by the Ministry of Tourism in cooperation with the Aqaba Region Authority on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday on Friday. The three-day festival will include skiing contests with the participation of skiing enthusiasts from around the globe during which they will present fascinating performances. A group of glass boats will also perform in the gulf.

Houston's Scott gets Cy Young

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Scott of Houston, whose no-hitter on Sept. 25 clinched the Astros' first National League baseball West Division title since 1980, won a narrow victory over Fernando Valenzuela of Los Angeles to become the league's 1986 Cy Young winner. In voting conducted by the Baseball Writers Association of America Tuesday the Houston right-hander received 98 points, 10 more than Valenzuela. Scott was 18-10 with a Major League-leading 306 strikeouts and 2.22 ERA in becoming the first Houston player to win the Cy Young award. Valenzuela, who won the award in 1981, had 21-11 record for the Dodgers.

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew

ACROSS	1 Biblical land	11	20	29	38	47	56	65	74	83	92	101	110	119	128	137	146	155	164	173	182	191	200	209	218	227	236	245	254	263	272	281	290	299	308	317	326	335	344	353	362	371	380	389	398	407	416	425	434	443	452	461	470	479	488	497	506	515	524	533	542	551	560	569	578	587	596	605	614	623	632	641	650	659	668	677	686	695	704	713	722	731	740	749	758	767	776	785	794	803	812	821	830	839	848	857	866	875	884	893	902	911	920	929	938	947	956	965	974	983	992	1001
DOWN	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100																				

INVITATION

On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, the Department of Antiquities gladly announces free admittance to museums and sites, on the 14th November 1986. Many Happy Returns on this great occasion.

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REPORT



Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

BAD MEDICINE



Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

OPERA

Tel: 675573

REPORT



Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

WHITE DOG



Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

REPORT



Performances 3:15, 5:00, 7:00, 9:45

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4270/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3855/60	Canadian dollars
	2.0235/45	West German marks
	2.2880/90	Dutch guilders
	1.6768/78	Swiss francs
	42.02/07	Belgian francs
	6.6200/50	French francs
	1400/1401	Italian lire
	161.20/30	Japanese yen
	6.9425/75	Swedish crowns
	7.4600/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.6340/90	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	407.20/407.70	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities in London closed mixed after standing firmer earlier in the session, and showed little reaction to the earlier trend of trading on Wednesday, dealers said. Trading was relatively quiet and interest selective. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up just 0.2 point at 1,660.7 after touching 1,667.2 at 1105 GMT.

The pound's weakness, however, pushed government bonds lower, with longer dated issues as much as 3/4 point down, but dealers noted that gilt were finding some support at the lower levels.

Among leaders, ICI gained 7p to 1,071 and Unilever 30p to 2,070 in further reaction to Tuesday's figures. Elsewhere among leaders, Cons Gold lost 13p to 686 on profit-taking after Tuesday's strong advance on heavy option demand, while British Aerospace firmed 5p to 500 on new contract hopes.

Life insurances were mixed but composites eased after disappointing third quarter figures from Commercial Union, down 14p to 268. General Accident, 11p off at 833, also published interim. Brokers PWS Holdings added 5p to 295 while bid target C.E. Heath lost 2p to 496.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOV. 13, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A great day to put into motion whatever advanced ideas and plans of action are of interest to you. Get in touch with persons who are very forward.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You desire an expansion and this is a good day for such. If a trip is needed, plan it wisely and count the cost.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have a fine opportunity to get ahead, so make the right decisions and then carry through with enthusiasm.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Add new friends to your present roster and this will be good for you and them. Put your ideas across.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get into whatever activities can improve your standing in the community where you dwell.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are inspired just how to gain your cherished wishes. Close friends also have ideas that can be helpful now.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study your mate from a different perspective. You'll see that attitude change will improve the relationship.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Situations arise that can give you and associates an opportunity to get ahead faster. Think constructively.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make the changes you have planned without further delay. Avoid one who could bring much trouble.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into amusements you like with enthusiasm and be happier. This brings future success.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Listen to the suggestions of a close tie that concern upgrading the condition of your home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) An early start in the outside world is wise. Have talks with allies that can bring much cooperation.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Finances and property should be first on the agenda today. Get advanced advice from a wealthy person.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, NOV. 14, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning brings you the opportunity to wind up making policy decisions. Tonight take stock of how far you have progressed and where you want to go.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Let your thoughts be clearer so that you can use them wisely. Get good ideas from experts and friends.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Put your private data in order so that you can use it cleverly. Do whatever will bring business-world success.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Come to the right decisions about how to gain your aims. A friend who thinks fast can give excellent suggestions.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) There are several things you can do in the outside world. Decide on the best procedure.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have your new ideas truly fixed in your mind and can now put them into operation with success.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Know what it is that your mate desires to do before you make plans for you both. The relationship is a partnership.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Finish that discussion with an outside associate and make workable plans that are easy to follow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Try a different tact at your work and get better results. Don't neglect handling public affairs.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get some amusement matter arranged. A fellow worker is cooperative. Be congenial.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try not to say anything at home that could disturb close ties and later get into recreations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Discuss amusements with those who want to enjoy them with you over the weekend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study ways and means for gaining more assets and income. A financial expert gives good advice, so listen.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have much energy and stubbornness that has to be channeled properly in order to prevent getting into trouble. Upon reaching maturity your progeny will be most eager to get much done and earn a good deal of money through constructive outlets.

GCC investments total \$205b in foreign states

LONDON — The total overseas investments of the six-member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are estimated to have stood at \$205 billion at the end of last year.

The Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU) Bulletin cited figures released by the Bank of England and the U.S. Treasury showing that Saudi Arabia was the biggest investor, with \$90 billion, followed by Kuwait (\$80 billion), the United Arab Emirates (\$20 billion) and Qatar, Oman and Bahrain (with a combined \$15 billion).

The GCC's foreign assets fell during 1985, as some were used to offset the domestic spending constraints imposed by falling oil

revenues. The six states' combined overseas assets at the end of 1984 were an estimated \$241.5 billion.

\$58 billion, or 28 per cent of the end-1985 foreign assets, were held in bank deposits in about twenty industrialised countries. An estimated \$55 billion (27 per cent) was invested in government securities, and \$12 billion (six per cent) in foreign exchange reserves, Special Drawing Rights, IMF reserves and World Bank Bonds.

\$49 billion, or 24 per cent of the total, was in the form of direct loans to, and shareholdings and property in, industrialised countries. \$31 billion, or 15 per cent, was in the form of loans to the least developed countries.

Bank of America closes down branch in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — The Bank of America, the United States' second-largest, announced Wednesday it was closing down its Beirut branch and notified clients that they should withdraw their deposits by Dec. 17.

A notice explaining the bank's plans was placed in several Beirut newspapers. However, it did not give a reason for the move.

But the independent daily Al Nahar said the decision to close down was not related to the financial crisis gripping war-ravaged Lebanon.

"It is prompted by American, not Lebanese, causes," Al Nahar said, without elaboration.

The newspaper said the bank had been scaling down its Lebanese operations gradually since 1976, a year into Lebanon's 11-year-old civil war. Its onetime 200-strong staff has been reduced to about 30.

Lebanon's financial crisis had sent its pound plummeting from five to the U.S. dollar to 50 to the dollar in the last four years, since Israel's 1982 invasion.

There was no immediate word whether Citibank, America's largest, Chase Manhattan and the American Express, also planned a similar move. The three banks have maintained branches in Beirut despite the civil strife.

EC clears way for family planning aid to Third World

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) development ministers cleared the way Tuesday for the community to give family planning aid to the Third World for the first time.

Until now the EC has avoided taking a policy stand on population control and has declined to mention such programmes in development aid guidelines.

In a resolution approved Tuesday, ministers expressed for the first time the Community's willingness to help developing countries manage population growth.

They said such programmes

would be increasingly important in development aid as poorer countries accounted for a growing proportion of the world's population.

They quoted as evidence an estimate that by the year 2000 about five billion of the world's 6.1 billion people would be living in the poorest countries.

Strict guidelines would be applied for EC aid to population programmes, an official said.

He said only those initiated by recipient countries would be considered, and they must not be coercive and should emphasise freedom of choice.

Citibank enriches graduates' skills

AMMAN (J.T.) — During the academic year 1986-1987, Citibank Amman will give its specialised foreign exchange skills course (known as the course) for the second and third time to graduating students at the Faculty of Economics, Yarmouk University. The course was first taught at the university during the second term of the 1985-1986 academic year.

The purpose was to give students a chance to engage in the practical application of their theoretical skills. In response to positive feedback from the students, the university has requested that the course also be

taught for the coming two terms.

Citibank Amman has been presenting its course to students in Jordan since 1984. The course teaches participants the dynamics of foreign exchange and money markets. It consists of lectures in foreign exchange/money markets and a simulation game where each participant takes the role of a bank and engages in active dealing.

The usual duration of this programme is two full weeks, but for the Yarmouk University the course is being given in weekly three hour sessions over the course of the term.

Mubarak assures foreign creditors Egypt will honour commitments

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday talks were under way to reschedule Egypt's foreign debts and assured creditors that Cairo will honour its commitments on repayment.

Mr. Mubarak was giving a policy speech opening a new session of parliament.

The president spoke almost immediately after swearing in a new, 32-member cabinet headed by Prime Minister Ataf Sedki, replacing the government of Dr. Ali Lutfi.

Mr. Mubarak on Sunday dismissed Dr. Lutfi, who had been in office for 14 months, mainly because of his failure to deal adequately with Egypt's economic crisis.

Mr. Mubarak's two-hour speech was dominated by the nation's economic woes, including a foreign debt of \$36 billion, dwindling foreign exchange revenues because of the world oil slump and a drop in tourist income caused by Middle East extremism.

"We are actively engaged in contacts with international institutions and creditor

governments to reschedule our debts in a way that would enable us to continue development projects and repay our debts on time," Mr. Mubarak said.

Egypt is having talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a standby credit of \$1 billion to help meet a balance of payments deficit exceeding \$3 billion this year. Agreement with the IMF would greatly help debt rescheduling efforts with individual foreign creditors. The new prime minister said Wednesday some of the IMF demands for the credit were unacceptable.

Egyptian officials say debt servicing will cost more than \$3 billion annually over the next three years, and they describe this period as "the real bottleneck."

Mr. Mubarak toured Britain, France, West Germany and Italy last July to enlist their support in negotiations with the IMF. These countries, along with the United States and Japan, are among Cairo's principal creditors.

"We have no intention of shirking our responsibility to other countries or shoving our burdens onto others," Mr. Mubarak said. "Equally, we do not accept interference by any quarter or foreign body in the direction of our economic policy. In this matter we uphold our sovereignty and complete freedom of choice."

Mr. Mubarak singled out France, Saudi Arabia, India and Pakistan for praise because they supported Egypt's stance in the

talks with the IMF.

"We expect other countries to fulfill their promises (of support) ... so we can arrive at an acceptable formula for international backing of Egypt's economic reform programme," Mr. Mubarak said.

He said one obstacle to his reform effort is a population growth averaging 1.4 million annually. The present population is 51 million.

Domestic production must be increased to reduce imports, he said. Commodity imports total \$9 billion annually compared to \$4 billion in exports — "a gap that must be bridged," he added.

Speaking to reporters after his government was sworn in by Mr. Mubarak, Dr. Sedki said: "I cannot accept some of the (IMF) conditions. No Egyptian negotiator can accept them because of concern over the interest of Egypt."

Dr. Sedki did not say what these conditions were.

The IMF wants Egypt to lift state subsidies on essential goods, unify its multi-tier foreign exchange system and raise domestic interest rates.

Egypt needs balance-of-payments support to make up for a dramatic drop in foreign currency earnings from oil exports, remittances from some three million Egyptian workers abroad and tourism.

The issue of subsidies, running at about \$2 billion annually, is politically sensitive. Unrest swept Egypt in 1977 when the government decreed price increases, which were later rescinded.

Dr. Sedki, previously Egypt's top financial watchdog, said on Sunday his government had no

intention of lifting subsidies but would ensure that only the needy among Egypt's 51 million people would benefit.

Asked on Wednesday about his plans to unify the exchange system, Dr. Sedki said: "A unification of the exchange system in one go is not possible." He gave no details.

A report Dr. Sedki issued as head of a parliamentary economic committee advocated abolishing the multi-tiered exchange rate system in favour of a free foreign exchange market.

Referring to the report, he said the study was the most serious recommendation for solving the problem.

Egypt has a "floating" commercial rate which fluctuates around 1.35 pounds to the dollar, while a rate of 0.70 pounds is used for official accounting.

A rate of 0.40 pounds is for trade and debt settlement with Soviet bloc countries and the free market rate is now 1.92 pounds to the dollar.

A fifth rate of 1.80 to the dollar was introduced earlier this month for Egyptians travelling abroad on official business, for medical care and for religious pilgrimages.

Dr. Sedki said he could not say at present whether Egypt would seek a compromise with the IMF on its demands. "Talks will continue, not only with the IMF, but with other international financial organisations as well," he said.

"We will not allow anyone to impose on us anything that runs counter to the interest of Egypt and its people. I believe in the necessity of cooperating with world financial bodies to benefit from their expertise," he added.

Iran lauds new Saudi oil policy

TEHRAN (R) — Deputy Oil Minister Hossein Kazempour Ardabili said in remarks published Wednesday that Iran felt more aligned in OPEC with Saudi Arabia following last month's dismissal of oil minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani.

"His ouster is an internal affair of Saudi Arabia. But if Yamani's replacement causes changes in Saudi Arabia's oil policies of the past year, we consider it positive," Ardabili said in an interview with the English-language Tehran Times.

"We are seeing signs that Saudis

are inclined to change their oil

policies... we now feel more aligned with Saudis," he added.

Ardabili said that since Sheikh Hisham Nazer was appointed acting Saudi oil minister on Oct. 29, "there have been greater contacts between Iranian and Saudi oil ministers, and we hope these contacts will lead to price stability."

Tehran newspapers reported that King Fahd of Saudi Arabia sent a message on Monday to Iranian President Ali Khamenei, calling on Iran to "back OPEC's oil pricing system for driving up

prices to an optimum level."

Iran and Saudi Arabia have been at loggerheads within OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) during the past year after a Saudi-led policy to flood the market in a bid to regain the group's bigger market share sent prices crashing.

Iran advocated restrained output to push up prices and prevailed over the Saudis at an OPEC conference in August, when the 13-nation group agreed to cut back overall production to some 17 million barrels per day during September and October.

IMF to lend China \$600 million

PEKING (R) — China will get a \$600 million loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) this year, the New China News Agency reported Tuesday.

The diplomats said China had last borrowed from the IMF in the early 1980s. According to the agency these earlier borrowings totalled \$930 million.

The diplomats said past borrowings had mostly been repaid, the loans being mainly for three to five years at floating interest rates that were not highly

subsidised.

They said Tuesday's announcement by Mr. Erb at an economic planning conference implied IMF endorsement of the broad lines of China's current economic policy.

These included a 15.8 per cent devaluation of the yuan against major currencies in July, lifting of price controls on selected goods and a greater role for market forces in the production process, and fewer subsidies.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I'm allergic to dogs, so I got a husband instead."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HINKT

KARNC

AMPODE

OXCIBE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: RAPID FEVER HOOKUP NUTRIA

Answer: What the host's life work was—TO AVOID IT

Aquino seeks investment by Japanese hi-tech industries

TOKYO (Agencies) — President Corazon Aquino said Wednesday she is especially interested in Japanese high technology investment to help overcome the Philippines' economic woes.

Mrs. Aquino, accompanied by Finance Minister Jaime Ongpin, Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez and nine other officials, made the request at closed-door talks with 30 Japanese business leaders.

A spokesman for the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry quoted Mrs. Aquino as saying her government would establish by the end of this month a "one stop shop" where all information and procedures would be available to promote foreign investment. Foreign firms will no longer need to go to one

government office after another to get a licence to invest.

Manila wants high technology and investment by medium and small Japanese firms to help reduce the 35 per cent unemployment rate and develop light industries, she said.

The Japanese side was quoted as saying a higher yen offered a good opportunity for investment in the Philippines.

Mrs. Aquino said a cost-efficient workforce and a new, liberal constitution made her country a good place to invest. She

added her government would fight Communist rebels if every reasonable option for a settlement by peaceful means was exhausted.

Japan's cumulative investment in the Philippines by the end of last March was \$892 million, the second largest after the United States.

Philippine officials told business leaders the country's economy was now as good as in the 1960's because of moves to liberalise trade and modernise state and development banks.

Later, in a speech at Waseda University where she received an honorary doctorate, Mrs. Aquino said: "As I came to power peacefully, so shall I keep it. This is my contract with my people and my commitment to God."

Pakistan reportedly tested A-bomb trigger

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Pakistan has successfully tested a triggering device for a nuclear bomb and has the components of a bomb ready to be assembled at short notice, the Hindu newspaper reported Wednesday.

The detonator was tested in September in the northern province of Baluchistan, the paper, without citing sources, said in a dispatch by G.K. Reddy.

He is a reporter known to have close ties with the Indian government, and it occasionally has used Reddy as a channel for sensitive information.

The report comes amid calls in parliament for India to build nuclear bombs, following a story in the Washington Post that rival Pakistan had successfully exploded a nuclear test device on Sept. 19. Pakistan has consistently denied it is working on a bomb.

Indian scientists said after the Post report that the United States had misinterpreted data and that seismic readings indicated an earthquake occurred in Pakistan on that date.

India exploded a nuclear device in 1974, but says its nuclear programme has only peaceful aims. Neither India nor Pakistan has signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty aimed at stopping the spread of nuclear weapons.

The two countries have fought three wars in the past 40 years. Pakistan "has fabricated a crude Hiroshima-type bomb which could be put together at short notice," the Hindu said.

The paper also said Pakistan has the capacity to produce uranium-235 usable in nuclear bombs and has set up two laboratories to reprocess plutonium-239, also used in bombs.

The plants, near Rawalpindi and at Chashma on the border of the North West Frontier Province, could reprocess enough plutonium for at least one bomb a year, the report said.

Already tense relations with Pakistan have worsened with Indian hints that Pakistan may have been involved in a recent attempt on Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's life in New Delhi.

200 people drown when Haitian ferry sank

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — About 200 people drowned when a Haitian ferry suddenly sank, according to one of about 20 survivors who said the vessel had been overloaded.

"The boat was overcrowded with both people and goods going to market and this was the cause of the tragedy," the unidentified survivor told Catholic radio station La Soleil.

The Okelele was making a 44-mile return trip to La Gonave, an island of 20,000 people, from the coastal town of Montrouis Tuesday, according to a La Soleil correspondent.

He said the vessel was about halfway home when it sank. A boat sent from La Gonave picked up the 20 survivors, the radio said.

There was no official comment on the accident.

People from La Gonave travel on crowded ferries to sell fish,

sorghum, corn and charcoal at markets in and around Montrouis. The islanders are mainly fishermen and subsistence farmers who return with goods to sell to local markets.

Some residents also travel to Montrouis every day to work in resort hotels.

Several ferries service the route. The diesel-powered vessels usually do not carry a passenger manifest and the true death toll may never be known, the radio said.

La Gonave is sparsely vegetated — its trees provide the islanders with charcoal, the main source of cash.

One source close to the government described La Gonave as "one of the most tragic examples of ecological disaster in Haiti".

The radio said many homes on the island were destroyed by a major flood less than a month ago.

Shultz defends American support for contra rebels

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, saying Latin American ministers here had nothing good to say about Nicaragua's government, has defended U.S. backing of anti-Sandinista rebels.

At a news conference following a meeting of the Organisation of American States (OAS) foreign ministers, Mr. Shultz also told a questioner that there were no U.S. military operations in Nicaragua — "and there won't be any."

Mr. Shultz denied he had met opposition to U.S. support for the contras who are due to receive \$100 million in aid, \$74 million of it in military material.

He said his talks were "very heartening." There would be a great sigh of relief throughout Latin America, he said, if there were a shift to a more democratic government in Nicaragua and an end to its military buildup.

"No one has a good word to say about Nicaragua any more," he said.

In his speech to the OAS earlier, Mr. Shultz predicted unrest in Nicaragua as long as the Sandinista government repressed the people's desire for democracy. "As long as the legitimate desires of the Nicaraguan people for genuine democracy are

repressed, the inevitable result will be rebellion, insurgency and war," he said.

In his speech, Mr. Shultz did not directly mention U.S. support for the contras, but said: "We cannot give lip service to democracy when it is convenient and costless, but turn our backs on it when there are costs or risks."

He said the United States did not want to turn Nicaragua "into a vortex of East-West turmoil," but said the Managua government was getting support from the Soviet Union and its allies.

"Failure to confront this threat will only guarantee that the region will be increasingly drawn into great-power rivalries," he said. "The only road to peace and stability is to eliminate the alien intervention."

In his speech, Mr. Shultz accused the Soviet Union and Cuba of trying to exploit instability in many countries of the Western hemisphere through clandestine arms shipments to dissident groups.

He said they were shipping arms to Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica and other countries. He spoke only in general terms, without specifying the types of weapons or offering any proof.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Dead crow stops bullet trains

TOKYO (R) — Two of Japan's super-fast long-distance "bullet" trains were stopped dead in their tracks Wednesday apparently because of a short circuit caused by a crow. Express trains running in both directions on a 30 kilometre section of the Shinkansen Line in central Japan stopped for one hour at rush hour Wednesday morning, halting trains on eight related lines and delaying 5,000 travellers before railway workers found the cause, Japan National Railways said. The body of a black crow was found in a small roadside trench that holds electrical wires. Officials said the bird probably brushed the wires with its wings, shorted the system and electrocuted himself.

Eyes help planes avoid bird accidents

TOKYO (AP) — All-Nippon Airways has discovered that painting scary-looking birds' eyes on the engine intakes of aircraft keeps real birds from colliding with its jet planes, a spokesman for the Japanese airline spokesman said Wednesday. Kazuki Mizuhara said the airline last year painted eyes on 26 Boeing 747s and 767s as an experiment to bring down the number of collisions between birds and jet planes. Aircraft without the paintings were struck by an average of nine birds over a one-year period, while those planes embellished by the artwork were hit by only one bird during the same period, he said. Mizuhara said birds become afraid when they see large depictions of their eyes. Researchers studying ways of scaring off birds that menace rice paddies discovered long ago that birds flee from such images, he said.

Couple charged with sex murders

PERTH, Australia (R) — A husband and wife have been charged with sexually assaulting and murdering four women whose naked bodies were dug out of shallow graves near Perth. Police said David John Birnie and Catherine Margaret Birnie, both 35, were arrested and were being questioned about the disappearances of several other women. The couple were accused of murdering their victims by strangulation, stabbing and suffocation. One of their alleged victims was only 15 years old, police said.

Delhi police save girls sold to brothel

NEW DELHI (R) — Police said they had broken up a "flesh trade racket" selling Calcutta and Bangladesh factory girls to New Delhi brothels at 3,000 rupees (\$237) apiece. Deputy Commissioner Kiran Bedi told reporters the girls, including a minor, were lured to the capital with promises of lucrative jobs. She said police arrested eight people when they rescued four Calcutta girls from brothels in Delhi's red light area. Two more Calcutta girls and two from Bangladesh were found lodged in a Sikh temple residence prior to being sold, Bedi added.

Britain's Queen Mother hospitalised

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, at 86 the oldest and best loved member of Britain's royal family, is receiving treatment for a nagging leg injury, the second time this year she has been hospitalised. She was taken to King Edward's Hospital for officers in Central London after complaining that a leg injury sustained during a holiday in Scotland three weeks ago was still troubling her. Her press secretary, Maj. John Griffin, gave a brief statement to journalists outside the hospital, saying: "The Queen Mother spent a comfortable night, and there is no cause for alarm." She is expected to remain in hospital for a few days to rest her leg, which she cut and bruised last month while walking in the grounds of Birkhall, her residence in the grounds of the royal estate at Balmoral in Scotland.

Irish Protestants urged to scrap 'citizens' army'

BELFAST (R) — Britain's Northern Ireland Minister Tom King Wednesday urged hard-line politicians Ian Paisley to scrap a new Protestant "citizens' army" because he said it stirred up sectarian hatred in the strife-torn province.

A military-style organisation called "Ulster Resistance" was set up on Monday to protest against the Anglo-Irish accord, a landmark agreement which gave the mainly Catholic Irish Republic a consultative voice in the running of largely Protestant, British-administered Northern Ireland.

About 1,000 Protestant extremists paraded through the fishing village of Kilkeel Tuesday night in the first demonstration by the new group. Other rallies are planned in the lead-up to Saturday's first anniversary of the Anglo-Irish accord when a mass protest rally is to be staged in

Belfast. Mr. King told BBC Radio. "This sort of organisation can intimidate. It is very easy to stir up sectarian hatred. There are some nasty people who are so bigoted they will use any opportunity they can to attack people of another religion."

More than 2,500 people have died in 17 years of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland. The latest victim this week was a policeman shot dead outside a friend's house in Belfast.

Mr. King said: "The people who are shouting loudest that democracy is dead are those who are refusing to take part in it."

Paisley, a Protestant clergyman, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party and implacable foe of the accord which he sees as a British government sell-out, said Wednesday ordinary Catholics had nothing to fear from "Ulster Resistance."

New riots flare up in Karachi

KARACHI (R) — Communal rioting flared in Karachi Wednesday immediately after authorities lifted a curfew and at least five people were injured, police said.

Pathans from North-West Frontier province stoned Mohajir immigrants leaving for work in the city's Orange suburb Wednesday morning. Police said 14 people were arrested.

Authorities rushed troops and police to the volatile area, where at least 60 people died in communal riots last year.

A police official said the Karachi administration might reimpose the curfew if the situation worsened. At least 58 people died in Karachi and the town of Hyderabad in street violence triggered by a Pathan attack on a Mohajir procession in Karachi Oct. 31.

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Iceland says anti-whaling saboteurs are terrorists

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP) — Prime Minister Steingunnur Hermannsson has branded anti-whaling saboteurs who scuttled two whaling boats in an anti-whaling protest this week.

Hermannsson announced on Icelandic television a cabinet decision to seek the extradition of the two men accused of involvement in the attack: American Rodney Coronado and Briton David Howard.

"The saboteurs are regarded by the Icelandic government as terrorists and all efforts will be made to get the people that are responsible prosecuted for this inhuman act," he said.

The government says Coronado and Howard are members of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, an international group with a history of violent attacks in

its efforts to save whales' lives. Hermannsson said it was no longer thought Coronado and Howard were responsible for an attack on a whaling station carried out Sunday, the same day as the scuttling in Reykjavik harbour.

Icelandic authorities had initially said they thought Coronado and Howard were responsible for both attacks, at Reykjavik and the whaling station.

The Sea Shepherd organisation has claimed responsibility for sinking two of Iceland's four whaling boats in Reykjavik harbour and wrecking the isolated station where whale byproducts are processed, but has not named those responsible.

Nobody was hurt in either attack.

S. Korean police report uncovering anti-state ring

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — Police announced Wednesday the arrest of 16 people, mostly former student activists, on charges of trying to set up an underground anti-state ring aimed at "Socialist revolution."

The announcement said a total 36 people were involved in what it identified as the anti-imperialist league, and that 20 members were being sought.

It came as one of a series of recent allegations from various government authorities of Communist influence among dissidents. The activists have claimed that the government of President Chun Doo-hwan was fabricating the charges as an excuse to prolong its grasp on power.

The anti-state ring was alleged to have been discovered while its

members were working at factories or in labour circles. The announcement said that most members of the ring were former students expelled from the prestigious Seoul National University for anti-government activities.

All were arrested on charges of violating South Korea's tough national security laws, it said. Police also charged them with distributing seditious material.

Authorities said they seized a number of Communist or pro-Communist leaflets and other items as evidence.

South Korean police Wednesday raided the headquarters of a leading dissident group, smashing down the door and seizing quantities of propaganda material.

Swiss under fire over 2nd chemical leak into Rhine

ZURICH (R) — European environment ministers are likely to heap fresh criticism on Switzerland following disclosure that a second chemical leak into the Rhine went unreported for 12 days.

Switzerland's neighbours are still smarting over the first leak, from the Sandoz Chemical Plant in Basle on Nov. 1. They say they were not properly informed and a Dutch minister is demanding compensation over the poison in the river dubbed the sewer of Europe.

Another Swiss chemical conglomerate acknowledged Tuesday it was responsible for a smaller leak on Oct. 31.

Ciba-Geigy said 400 litres (88 gallons) of the weedkiller Atrazin had been accidentally discharged into the Rhine. "The concentration was very low and there was never a danger to fish," spokesman Reinhard Moser told Reuters.

Asked why there had been a delay in reporting the incident, he said the mistake had not been detected until Nov. 5 and investigations were not completed until Nov. 7, at which point the authorities were informed.

But the Environment Minister of the West German Rhineland State of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Gerhard Weiser, said he had not

been informed until Tuesday. "I simply do not understand this information policy (of the Swiss authorities)," he told reporters in Stuttgart.

Environment ministers from France, The Netherlands, West Germany, Luxembourg, and European Community Environment Commissioner Stanley Clinton Davis met at a Zurich hotel Wednesday to discuss the Sandoz accident with Swiss officials.

The meeting was hastily arranged under the chairmanship of Swiss President Alphonse Egli as about 30 tonnes of poisonous chemicals released after a fire at the Sandoz Plant worked its way down the Rhine. Much of the pollution has now oozed into the North Sea through The Netherlands.

Dutch Transport and Public Works Minister Neelke Smit-Kroes said she would demand compensation at Wednesday's meeting for the damage caused. She and French officials accused the Swiss of providing inadequate information on the pollution danger.

Sandoz has made almost no public comment except to reject accusations that it violated regulations on the storage of dangerous materials.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ertman

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By Bert H. Eruse

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